Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**
**Are you happy with the interim final rule issued by DHS governing federalization of CNMI immigration?**

Let your voice be heard!
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to cast your vote.

**PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6**

As of November 7, 2009

**Phase 6:** The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

*Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization*

## INSIDE

**Rampage**
An Army psychiatrist set to be shipped overseas opened fire at Fort Hood in a rampage that killed 12.

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**7th Title**
To pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao, size really doesn't matter.

MAHARLIKA...Page 13

# Election poll causes political uproar

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Bridge Capital LLC yesterday said it terminated the employment of its spokesperson for allowing company resources to be used for a political survey, which showed 22 percent of polled voters are uncertain about their choices in today's general elections and 54 percent believe the CNMI is heading in the wrong direction.

*See POLL on Page 4*

## 3rd suspect in armed robbery falls

### Wife also arrested for alleged 'ice' trafficking

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police arrested yesterday the third suspect in the recent daylight robbery at a pawnshop in Chalan Kanoa that injured two persons.

Zhou Fan Zhang, 30, also known as Brother, was tagged as the driver of the

*See ROBBERY on Page 4*

## All set for Election Day

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gary Jacobsen, a technical support expert at the Omaha, Nebraska-based Election Systems & Software which is a contractor for the Commonwealth Election Commission, conducts a test run on one of two optical scanner tabulating machines that will be used in counting the results of today's general elections in the CNMI. Polling places open at 7am and close at 7pm.

## Police to monitor election 'hot spots'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Police officers will be closely monitoring some polling stations on Saipan that are considered "hot spots" during elections.

An official of the Department of Public Safety said yesterday that polling stations considered "hot spots" are San Vicente Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, and San Antonio Elementary School.

"We are going to deploy more police officers at these three polling places to maintain peace and order," said the official who spoke on condi-

*See POLICE on Page 4*

## WHERE TO VOTE

**PRECINCT 1** 1-A San Antonio Elementary School
1-B San Vicente Elementary School
1-C Koblerville Elementary School
**PRECINCT 2:** Saipan Northern Island Municipal Council building., Chalan Kanoa (adjacent to the U.S. Post Office)
**PRECINCT 3:** 3-A Gilbert C. Ada Gym
3-B Garapan Elementary School (entrance MIHA)
**PRECINCT 4:** 4-A Tanapag Youth Center
4-B GTC Elementary School
4-C Jesus Mafnas Legislative Blg., Capital Hill
4-D Northern Islands
**PRECINCT 5:** Kagman Community Center
**PRECINCT 6:** Tinian Elementary School
**PRECINCT 7:** NMC/Rota Campus

**Voters approved to vote in different municipalities on each island will vote at the designated places—Pedro Multipurpose Center for Saipan; Tinian Elementary for Tinian; and NMC Rota for Rota**

*Source: CNMI Election Commission*

## CEC deploys over 150 poll workers

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commission on Election is all set for today's general election where four teams will vie for the highest positions in government.

Yesterday, over 150 individuals were selected by the agency to work at various polling places and precincts on three islands. These 150-plus temporary workers are on top of regular commission employees.

CEC said these workers were selected from a list provided by each political party and independent candidates.

About 155 were selected by the agency for polling precincts on Saipan and Tinian. Poll workers for Rota have yet to be determined as of yesterday noon.

There will be a total of nine workers present for each polling precinct: three poll workers, three poll supervisors, and three "confined" workers. Confined workers are not allowed to leave their assigned polling precincts and are required to monitor the voting process.

As of 5pm yesterday, Election Commission staffers were seen preparing all the necessary equipment and technologies for the efficient monitoring of today's poll such as radios and badges.

Commission executive director Robert Guerrero was also seen busy visiting all polling precincts to ensure the smooth flow of election today.

"Everything is set in all our polling places...we're ready to accommodate the voters and we will open as scheduled at 7am through 7pm," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the commission expects a higher turnout in this year's gu-

*See ELECTION on Page 4*

Kaliga, Dowai, Kikuo are Tanapag awardees. **PAGE 2**
Fund wants limit on 3 pct. bonus for govt officials. **PAGE 3**

# Local

FOR EDUCATION MONTH CELEBRATION:

## Kaliga, Dowai, Kikuo are Tanapag awardees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Dina N. Kaliga, left, the Teacher of the Year of Tanapag Elementary School, poses with Antonio Kikuo, the school's Support Staff of the Year during an interview yesterday.

Tanapag Elementary School's faculty and staff unanimously chose Dina N. Kaliga, Linda I. Dowai, and Antonio Kikuo as their outstanding educational awardees this school year and the three will represent the Tataga family in the islandwide search for overall Public School System awardees this month.

Kaliga has been working for public schools for 13 years. She first started as a teacher aide in Oleai Elementary, then moved to Tanapag where she spent nine years assisting classroom teachers on campus. This school year marks her fifth year as a regular classroom teacher in Tanapag Elementary.

This is her first time to be nominated and to actually bag the school's recognition is an amazing experience, she said.

"This is my first time to be nominated and I am glad and excited," she told *Saipan Tribune,* adding that she's truly grateful to her school administrators and colleagues for the recognition.

At present, Kaliga is a third grade mentor.

She said her long experience as a teacher aide helped her a lot in becoming an effective educator.

Kaliga said her desire to enter the teaching profession was inspired by her family and relatives, a majority of whom are working in schools.

Although her chosen profession has many challenges, Kaliga said she finds it fulfilling.

Kaliga's goal is to see all her students succeed in life. "I want them to learn and become somebody someday. I want them to become independent and competitive in the outside world," she said.

Kaliga strongly believes that educating a child is everyone's business.

### Teacher Aide, Support Staff of the Year

Hailed as its 2009 Teacher Aide of the Year is Linda I. Dowai, who has been working at Tanapag for eight years and currently assists the Kindergarten class.

The school administrators and staff described her as creative and innovative. Dowai is currently pursuing a degree in elementary education.

Chosen as the school's outstanding Support Staff of the Year is Antonio Kukuo, whose unofficial title is all-around aide as he helps everyone on campus.

He started working for PSS four years ago and is currently in his second year at Tanapag Elementary School.

This outstanding employee is now in charge of the school's computer programs and mans the computer laboratory, assists students and teachers, and maintains the technical equipment at the school.

It is his first time to be nominated and to actually get the honor. On a daily basis, Kikuo attends to four classes with an estimated 50 students.

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# Fund wants limit on 3 pct. bonus for govt officials

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund wants to set limits on providing the 3-percent bonus for elected government officials, as proposed in the amended regulation it published in the Commonwealth Register.

Based on the existing law on service credits and other benefits for certain government officials, any person who serves the CNMI government as a governor, lieutenant governor, Commonwealth judge, mayor, member of the Legislature or resident representative shall receive an additional bonus, computed at 3 percent times average annual salary times years of service.

Under the proposed regulation published on Oct. 29, the Fund wants to provide this benefit only if there is funding available for this purpose.

The proposed rule also states that the beneficiary must be a Fund member before Dec. 5, 2003, when Public Law 13-60 became effective.

P.L. 13-60, an amendment to the NMI Retirement Act of 1988, allows substantial portion of government revenues to go to the Fund and permits the government to divert the necessary resources to pay for essential services for the benefit of the public, including the 3-percent bonus for certain elected officials and boards and commissions.

Under the proposed rules, the Fund said that recipients of this bonus must prove that they did not get a refund on their contributions.

It also recommended that such additional credit may not increase the annuity payable to more than 100 percent of the highest annual salary received.

For persons who served as a member of a board or commission, the Fund wants the recipient to have at least 10 years of service and did not also get a refund on their contributions.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that based on the existing statute, the re-computation of the annuity may be performed at the time of retirement and will increase the benefit by 3-percent per year for every year served in such capacity.

The board has discussed this issue several times before but it was only recently that trustees decided to adopt the new rules in consideration of the current state of the economy and the financial distress of the Fund.

## Holiday mailing guidelines for military mail

### Overseas military mail costs less if sent by Nov. 13

The recommended date for the most economical holiday postage to overseas military locations—including Iraq and Afghanistan—is Nov. 13, according to the U.S. Postal Service.

Mail sent to overseas military addresses is charged only domestic mail prices. The domestic price for a priority mail large flat rate box is $13.95, but for packages to APO/FPO addresses overseas the price is $11.95.

Additional discounts are available for customers printing their Priority Mail postage labels online at Click-N-Ship.

Flat-Rate boxes are free at any Post Office, or can be ordered online at shop.usps.com. Postage, labels and customs forms can be printed online any time using Click-N-Ship.

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages to military APO/FPO addresses overseas by Dec. 25, the postal service recommends:

- Parcel post to APO/FPO zones be sent by Nov. 13
- Space available mail to APO/FPO AE ZIP 093 be sent by Nov. 21.
- Parcel air mail to APO/FPO AE ZIP 093 be sent by Dec. 1.
- Priority mail and first class mail letters and cards to APO/FPO be sent by Dec. 4.

The Postal Service also offers free military care kits, designed specifically for military families sending packages overseas. The mailing kits can be ordered by phone by calling 1-800-610-8734 and asking for the Care Kit. Each kit includes two "America Supports You" large Priority Mail Flat-Rate boxes, four medium-sized Priority Mail Flat-Rate boxes, six Priority Mail labels, one roll of Priority Mail tape and six customs forms with envelopes.

"Mailing holiday gifts to service members early will help ensure that a piece of home arrives in plenty of time to make the celebration complete," said Pranab Shah, vice president and managing director, Global Business. ***(PR)***

## EMO warns of life threatening waves

The CNMI Emergency Management Office is strongly advising the public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches until noon tomorrow due to dangerous rip currents that can be life threatening.

In an advisory it issued yesterday, EMO said high surf from large swells generated by a trade wind surge will continue through Sunday, Nov. 8, on north and east exposures.

A high surf advisory is now in effect until noon Sunday along north and east facing reefs. Affected beaches are those along east and south facing reefs.

"Expect hazardous surf of 10 to 14 feet through Sunday. The Saipan buoy reports a 9-foot swell with a 12- to 13-second period, which suggests surf heights around 12 feet in Guam. Surf heights should be one to two feet higher in the Northern Marianas," EMO said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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## Saipan to observe 'Feed Saipan Thursday' this Thanksgiving

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela will sign a Mayoral Proclamation on Nov. 19, 2009, at 11am to designate Thursday, Nov. 26, 2009, Thanksgiving Day as "Feed Saipan Thursday."

Traditionally for six years, "Feed Saipan Thursday" reminds everyone to fast for one full meal on Thanksgiving Day to remember those who continue to starve because they have less or no food on their eating table. Saipan will also remember those who remain homeless and in dire need of clothing and shelter.

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan is now receiving food, clothing and monetary donations to be turned over to Karidat Social Services. Anyone who would like to generously donate food, clothing and money, may the call the Saipan Mayor's Office at 234-6280 or 6208 and ask for Ton Benavente. You can bring your donations to the Saipan Mayor's Office during business hours, Monday to Friday.

Your generous donation can make a difference this Thanksgiving Day. *(PR)*

**AHEC VISITOR**

Northern Marianas College Dean of Community Programs & Services Tee Abraham, far left, presents a gift to visitor Dr. Kelly Withy, second from right, director of the Hawaii/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center, which oversees the CNMI's AHEC Program, which is operated by NMC's Community Development Institute. Also in photo are NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, far right, and CDI AHEC coordinator Les Ogumoro. AHEC provides health education, career recruitment, and health professions training based on community needs.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**CREES VOLUNTEERS**

Students of the Northern Marianas College pose with aquaculture specialist and acting NMC Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service director Michael Ogo and NMC-CREES agriculture specialist Isidoro Cabrera. As part of a project for a class taught by Sam McPhetres, the students have been volunteering at CREES and are slated to present alongside NMC-CREES staff at the upcoming Second Agricultural Summit. From left is Michael Ogo, Antonio Tiples, Amber Mendiola, Monica Kiyoshi, Dyenina Diaz, Joel Tudela, and Isidoro Cabrera.

NMC

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Tina Sablan
#5 for Senator

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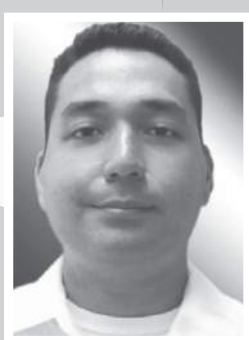

Jesse Torres
#7 for Congress

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## ROBBERY

*From Page 1*

group's getaway vehicle.

Zhang's wife, Xuena Yu, 22, also known as Sister, was also arrested early yesterday morning for "ice" trafficking.

Zhang was arrested for conspiracy to commit attempted murder, armed robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon, drug trafficking, and illegal possession of controlled substance.

Yu was apprehended for drug trafficking and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

At yesterday's hearing, Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo imposed no bail for Zhang and a $25,000 cash bail for Yu.

Preliminary hearing was set for Nov. 13 for both defendants.

In his report, Detective Christopher Leon Guerrero said their investigation showed that Zhang was the driver of the car that dropped off Marlon Martin and Fernando Quitano near the 24-Hours Pawnshop, formerly called the Pink House Pawnshop, on Oct. 23.

Zhang then drove the vehicle toward the Round House and parked it across the U.S. Postal Office in Chalan Kanoa, Leon Guerrero said.

Martin and Quitano managed to rob the pawnshop but two witnesses and one of the victims chased them, Leon Guerrero said.

With the help of the witnesses, police found Martin and arrested him. Quitano, however, managed to run to the getaway vehicle.

Zhang drove the car and went around to try to pick up Martin. Zhang parked the vehicle behind Welcome Laundry, but Martin could not get into the car because two witnesses were chasing him.

Zhang decided to drive toward a jungle area. Quitano shouted at Zhang to get out of the vehicle. Quitano allegedly threw the backpack containing the crowbar at Zhang.

Leon Guerrero said they received information that Zhang was arrested before for trafficking "ice" but he still continued selling the illegal drugs.

On Thursday, police used a "confidential source" to purchase $200 worth of "ice" from Zhang and Yu, the detective said.

## POLICE

*From Page 1*

tion of anonymity.

The official said these three polling stations have the most number of voters. Candidates and supporters usually go there for last-minute campaigning.

The official said today's election is considered hot because there are four gubernatorial candidates plus many other candidates running for other government positions.

He said the presence of police officers are very important to avoid fights, usually triggered by heckling of supporters against other political party's supporters.

He expressed hope that, just like in previous elections, candidates will remind their supporters to respect their opponent's supporters too.

To have an orderly and peaceful election, the official urged all political parties to restrict all campaign activities off the roads and at a minimum of 300 feet from polling stations.

He also requested the public to observe the Board of Election's rules and regulations.

"I am appealing to the public to comply with police officers, election officials, and poll workers so we don't have trouble," the official added.

It was not clear yet whether the Department of Public Safety is putting the Tactical Response Enforcement Team on standby.

DPS spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday he would ask Capt. Lawrence Camacho, the overall commander in the election operations, what would be the TRET's role. As of press time, Tarkong has yet to respond to clarify the matter.

Earlier, Tarkong disclosed that DPS will deploy 40 more police officers to maintain peace and order in the election. Of the 40, three will be assigned to Tinian and three others to Rota to assist in the election on the islands.

Tarkong said the 40 officers are in addition to the regular patrol and traffic officers scheduled for regular duty.

## ELECTION

*From Page 1*

bernatorial election.

Last Thursday night, Guerrero and the election board finalized the details of their preparations and had an actual demonstration of the four new optical scanner tabulating machines.

At present, the agency has two existing machines and four new ones. Two of the new ones will be sent to Rota and Tinian today for the preliminary counting, but Guerrero said these would also be returned to Saipan to help in the general counting on the night of the election.

Based on the CEC's Web site, NMI registered voters stand at 16,108, including over 2,000 absentee voters.

Since last week, Guerrero said over 50 percent of the absentee ballots have already been received by the CNMI and these are being kept at the island's post office.

He is expecting the tabulation and counting to proceed after the 7pm closure of the polling stations.

CEC is expected to certify the winning candidates 10 days after the election.

Due to the enactment of a new law, there will be a runoff election if none of the four teams vying for the gubernatorial post gets a majority vote. The runoff election must be conducted 14 days after the commission certifies the results of the election.

### 'Election hot spots'

Guerrero has identified three election hot spots in today's election, based on historic experience: San Vicente, Garapan, and San Antonio.

He described supporters in these villages as "aggressive and very active."

Commission data showed that San Antonio has a total of 793 registered voters this year; San Vicente has 2,451, while Garapan has 2,464.

In a visit to polling places yesterday, *Saipan Tribune* saw political parties putting up their tents near polling places. Candidates' banners, streamers, billboards, and chairs and tables for their supporters were seen being set up.

### '110 candidates for 40-plus posts'

More than half of the 110 certified candidates are running as independents for various positions in government.

The CNMI Republican Party fielded 26 candidates while the Covenant Party has 25 official contenders. Only four were shown running under the Democratic Party banner.

The rest are independent contenders.

In today's ballot, the team of Heinz Hofschneider and Arnold Palacios has the No. 1 slot in the gubernatorial race; the No. 2 spot is for Covenant Party's Benigno Fitial and Eloy Inos; No. 3, the tandem of Ramon S. Deleon Guerrero and David Borja; and No. 4 is the team of Juan T. Guerrero and Joseph Camacho.

Besides the various government positions, four initiatives are also up for the people's approval today.

Polling places will open from 7am through 7pm in 13 designated polling stations on three islands.

## POLL

*From Page 1*

But Lily Nguyen, who lost her job with Bridge Capital, and her significant other, Marianas Consulting principal consultant Jay Solly, who conducted the phone survey, claimed Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and the Covenant Party pressured the company to terminating her employment.

Fitial is seeking re-election in today's elections.

Bridge Capital officials denied this, saying Nguyen was fired for improper use of company resources even before it got an inquiry from the Governor's Office about the matter.

Teresa Kim, legal counsel for Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, described as "insulting" reports that the termination was done at the behest of the governor.

"We did not ask nor would we have asked for anyone to be terminated," Kim told *Saipan Tribune* when asked for comment.

### Scientific

Solly said the survey was done scientifically and the poll's methodology was within the guidelines of the American Association of Public Opinion Researchers.

"We're not trying to become political enemies of anybody and unfortunately that is what has become of the day for us and unfortunate for their campaign, having done 26 races over 14 years, that's a huge distraction for them. I'm sorry I caused that distraction but when they've attacked me, that requires a response for all to be understood," Solly said in an interview yesterday afternoon.

He said he stands by the survey results. Marianas Consulting did not provide the *Saipan Tribune* a copy of the results for Friday's publication.

"We're getting onto this business where they're unhappy with the results. …This is effectively a retaliatory firing because they're unhappy that the employee has a significant other who produced a poll unfavorable to the current administration," said Solly.

He added, "Why is it that the governor thinks he can call the company and say heads must roll and they do? Can someone answer that? That's a question to be asked."

### Survey results

Besides the uncertainty of CNMI voters and the approval ratings given by voters to the job of the governor, Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela and the Legislature, the survey results also showed that Fitial got only a 25 percent approval rating.

Fitial also ranked third among favored candidates in the four-way gubernatorial race based on the survey results, trailing behind Republican Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider and Independent Juan "Pan" Guerrero.

Independent candidate former senator Ramon "Kumoi" Deleon Guerrero placed fourth in the polls, with 225 completed surveys out of 800 dials.

### No involvement

Bridge Capital chief legal officer and vice president Richard Pipes, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, and in a separate statement by the company, said Bridge Capital had no involvement in the political survey.

Bridge Capital LLC is an international investment banking and real estate development company headquartered in the CNMI.

Covenant Party chair Gregorio M. Camacho, in a separate statement, questioned the methodology employed by Marianas Consulting and the credibility of the pollster.

The party, which was founded by Fitial, said it is unfortunate that the story becomes more complicated when Solly "abused the trust of a very close friend of his by using, without permission, the resources of one of the CNMI's companies in the process of conducting this poll."

"My heart and the hearts of the members of the Covenant Party go out to the person Mr. Solly hurt and the company that were unwillingly brought into this troubling situation," said Camacho.

Before she was fired, Nguyen was the company's spokesperson and executive assistant to Bridge Capital chief executive officer John K. Baldwin.

Bridge Capital plans to invest a minimum of $5 million to revitalize the long-vacant La Fiesta Mall in San Roque that will consist mainly of video lottery games, along with restaurants, shops and other tourist attractions. Since June this year, the company has donated nearly $25,000 to the CNMI community.

### Employee speaks out

Nguyen said there were no costs incurred by the use of her home phone.

Bridge Capital provided housing and home phone to Nguyen at Anak's Condominium. Nguyen lives with her significant other, Solly.

Solly made the phone calls from Oct. 29 to Nov. 4.

A statement from Bridge Capital office manager John R. Mulder also confirmed that "some of the calls were apparently made from a residential telephone assigned to one of our employees."

"These calls were not authorized by Bridge Capital, we were unaware they were being made, and the employee was absolutely not permitted to conduct a private business from the residence," said Mulder.

Bridge Capital said "the employee has been terminated."

Nguyen said at about 10:55am yesterday, she was in her office and Pipes asked her "simple questions" such as "Is Solly your boyfriend?" and "Does Jay work for Marianas Consulting which did this poll?" to which she answered "yes" to both.

Nguyen quoted Pipes as saying, "We're receiving some pushback from the governor."

Five minutes later, she said, Mulder asked her, "Do you know what's this all about," to which she said "yes.

Nguyen said Mulder asked her to leave the premises immediately.

### For cause

In a phone interview, Pipes confirmed the termination of an employee "for cause.

He said Bridge Capital started receiving phone calls from members of the community, some of whom were called by Solly for the political survey, and asked whether Bridge Capital was involved in the survey.

Solly said this is "not an accurate order of events."

Pipes said they checked the numbers used and found out that it's the phone line assigned to the employee. He said the employee committed a "breach of employment" when she allowed company resources to be used for purposes not authorized by Bridge Capital.

"This has nothing to do with the results of the polls. We already terminated her when we received a call from the governor's office whether we had something to do with the survey," said Pipes.

The phone number listed on Marianas Consulting's press release on the survey results, a copy of which was obtained only yesterday, was cut off yesterday morning.

Nguyen, Solly and Pipes confirmed this phone number was the one used in the survey.

### 'Insulting'

Kim said they "received a call from an individual that had received a call from the person doing the polling (Jay Solly) and we were informed that the recipient of the phone call's caller ID stated that the call originated from Bridge [Capital].

"Not knowing that Bridge was involved in the polling business, we called and left a message with Bridge to find out if they were in the polling business. When we received a call back from them, they informed us that they had terminated the employee. We did not ask nor would we have asked for anyone to be terminated," Kim told *Saipan Tribune* when asked for comment.

"Quite frankly, it is insulting for anyone to allege that we did so. We merely wanted to know if Bridge was in fact involved in the polling business. Our hearts go out to the individual who was unwittingly put in this position by the careless and reckless behavior of her friend," Kim added.

### More information

Covenant Party's Camacho, in a statement, said "in the interest of fairness, we tried to find out some information about not only the methodology but also the 'company' that conducted the poll."

He said they searched online about Marianas Consulting and found that it's based in Ontario, Canada.

But Solly said Marianas Consulting is a U.S. company established and registered in the CNMI as an independent consulting firm. He said their Web site is www.marianasconsulting.biz.

"They didn't like the results so they went ahead and dug out as much dirt as they could, gathering facts that are inaccurate and them attempting to slander someone who has done this more times than they have," Solly said.

### Super voter

In a press release about the survey results, Solly said "of interest is the percentage of registered voters who report voting every election, at the remarkable 77 percent."

"People in the CNMI say this is the norm, but that is unheard of in the United States. We call it a 'Super Voter' if someone voted in 4 out of the 4 last elections. A lifetime voter who never misses a chance to exercise his right to vote would almost be an anomaly in the Mainland, so this is truly impressive," he said.

He also said the "Margin of Error; +/-5.5% with a 90 percent Confidence Interval" and "For Sub-sample of registered voters +/-7.6% with a 90 percent Confidence Interval."

Marianas Consulting is a strategy, government and public affairs consulting firm headquartered on Saipan. Solly said he has over 12 years of professional experience in political communications, public relations, marketing and government arenas at the territory, state, and national level. He has advised, managed, or worked on 26 campaigns in 14 years.

# JUAN PAN TENORIO GUERRERO & JOSEPH NORITA CAMACHO

**Please Vote #4**

**Please Vote #4**

Dear People of the Commonwealth,

When you exercise the most important of your fundamental rights – the right to vote – we ask that you do so thoughtfully, honestly, and with the best interests of our Commonwealth in mind.

Look at candidates' past histories – what opportunities they have had – and whether they made the most of, or squandered, those opportunities. Ask yourself whether you believe there needs to be a change in the direction our community is headed and in those who lead us down that road. Decide who you believe has the skills and experience necessary to lead our islands to a better future. Then cast your votes accordingly – do not be pressured by family, friends, or political parties.

We have spent most of this year talking with thousands of you individually. We know what your concerns are. We are committed to addressing the challenges facing the Commonwealth on behalf of all residents. We will do so efficiently, effectively, honestly, and transparently. We will do so within the financial means of the Commonwealth.

We will accomplish our goals, most importantly, through hiring or retaining truly qualified, competent individuals with experience in their respective fields. We will employ these people regardless of age, race, gender, or political affiliation. We will work with these employees to develop lists of deliverables in their areas of responsibility. We will hold these individuals accountable. This is how it works in private businesses and this is how it should work in government. Your vote does not merely put people into office; it puts in place standard-bearers who must be capable of leading a team.

We both have rich and diverse backgrounds – proven leadership and experience in our public and private endeavors and proven commitment to our community.

We humbly ask for your support, regardless of your family ties or your political affiliation. We are conscious of the great responsibilities to the people that will be owed by the next governor and lieutenant governor, and, if elected, we are prepared and committed to live up to the trust placed in us by voters.

God bless the People of the Commonwealth.

Juan Pan Tenorio Guerrero

Joseph James Norita Camacho

**EXPERIENCE • HARD WORK • SOLUTIONS**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Juan Pan and Joe Camacho

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

## Selections on election

The remarkable record of practically no gladiatorial combats in published media this last campaign period speaks of a level of maturity among our candidates that is unprecedented in the Commonwealth's history of elections.

Yes, there are still remnants of combative and accusatory ads, or, at least, questioning of adequacy or even integrity of the "other guy(s)," but that has been the exception rather than the rule.

What has become clear is that we are beginning to approach elections as a choice of perspectives and policies, approaches and methodologies among a plethora of selections. Were we choosing for viands in a sumptuous smorgasbord feast, the issue would be a matter of taste, not on whether the choices are at war against each other. For indeed, the buffet covers a multitude of tastes! We have choices before us; we are not observers of combatants out to entertain us for our votes. We were asked to listen with our principles and vote with our conscience, though blood ties remain thick.

People who campaigned for continuity have been explicit, so were those who advocated for change. The challenge of youth is up against the resilience of experience. New faces joined the galleys along with the familiar ones. The old rambunctious village rallies were not as well attended or as effective as they were in previous times. Times are indeed, a-changin'!

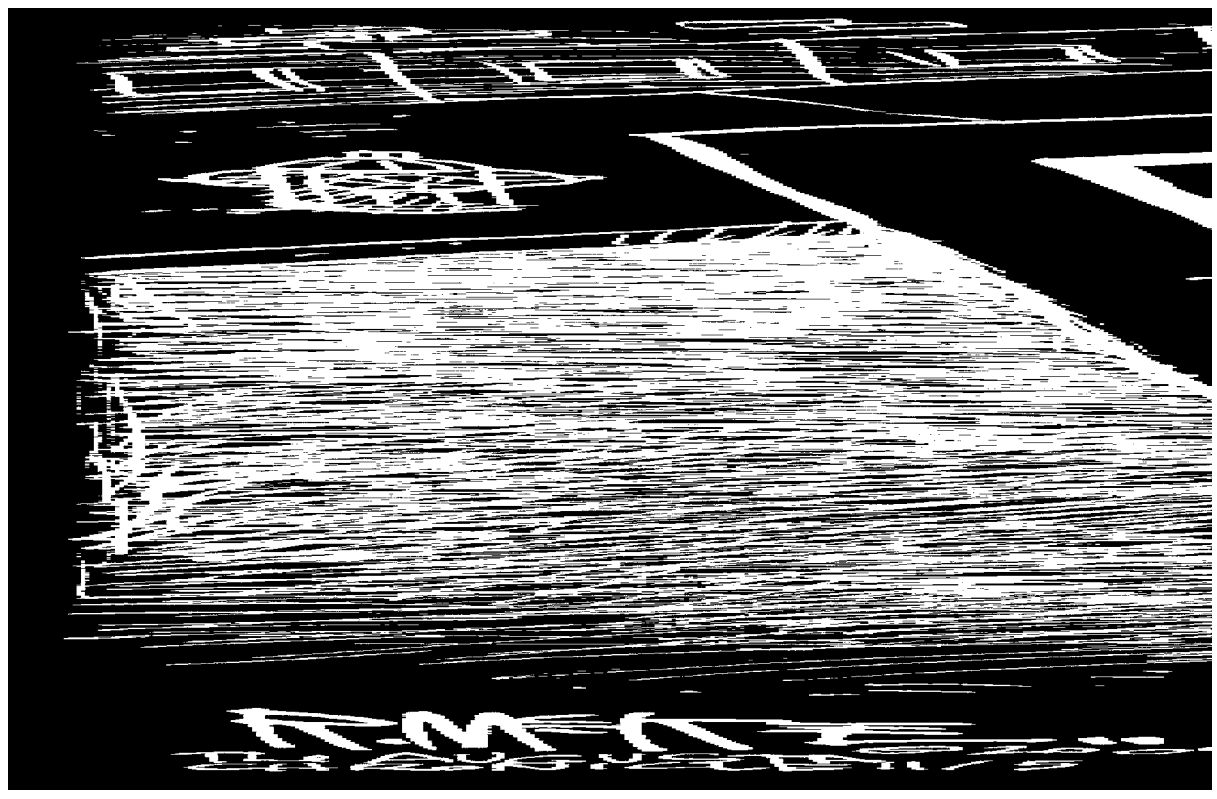
New style of presentation of one's candidacy has emerged, much more cognizant of the value of individual votes rather than on tribal and familial suasions. This is a welcome development.

The result of today's choices will inevitably guide the Commonwealth's destiny in the short and the long term. But just as equally critical are symbolic events like the City Taxi Association's volunteer service to ferry voters to the polls, the possible application of the OGA to the Legislature, the ongoing issuance of "umbrella permits" to a constituency heretofore on hold with bated/baited breath on what their future hold post-Nov. 28, and the reality of the federalization of labor and immigration itself.

Change has become inevitable. How we vote today will determine how that change will play out.

Go out and vote!

© Saipan Tribune



# Present at the deportation*

**By JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Vergara is a regular contributor to the* Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

She served a full year of confinement for pleading guilty to being an illicit drug dealer. The judge's ruling was clear: immediate deportation at the end of her yearlong incarceration. She was due for release middle of April 2009.

Chinese *Chen Xiao Yu* came to Saipan 2001 as an eager garment factory worker. Paying a recruitment fee that was seven times the value of a plane ticket to this marketed sunshine island of the U. S., she came to a rain-drenched oppressively hot barracks in the Pacific Ocean eight time zones away from Los Angeles where she was misled to think she would be close to, devoid of any semblance of a healthy community she can belong to, constantly exploited by her own employer and harassed by a strange mercenary population.

After two years of being cheated overtime labor, she realized that her pay level was not going to recoup her investment at the end of a three-year employ. She began exploring other options. Girls in her factory were in the Karaoke Bar business, a euphemism for the flesh trade, dominating the human resource need of the Garapan and Beach Road entertainment district. She had a restaurant in China before Saipan, so she thought of starting one in the Commonwealth.

To become a legal entrepreneur, she bought into a locally arranged marriage, providing her an "immediate relative" labor and immigration status. She became Ms. Jordan at an additional cost of half her initial investment to come to Saipan. Annual renewals were friendly at no additional cost but a "substantial gift" was neither discouraged nor refused.

For capital, she discovered a lucrative business already operating under her nose: "ice" (methamphetamines) trafficking. Not a user herself, co-workers testimonies made it clear that there is a sustained market for its use, and there was money to be made in its trade. Cognizant of the illegality of it all, her China mainland orientation of observance of the law only when necessary, she accommodated the fact that drugs were widely used and commonly dispensed everywhere.

Thus, begun a slow but steady journey into becoming a supplier for a commodity much in demand. It is true, she claims, that the out-and-down, and the out-of-luck members of the community are users, but a majority of her clientele were not the ones offering stolen goods, and fresh ocean or backyard garden produce. It was well-placed professionals, business people, children of the fashionably well-off and economically well-to-do, even government and law enforcement personnel who were constant but discreet consumers of the chemical stimulant.

She found a way to capitalize her restaurant, but food prep was high maintenance with nary a profit to be made. The clientele came to the bar for the ladies. The drug market improved when the entertainers become consumers to enhance performance, and also, to ward off any pangs of conscience should former mothers and daughters remember the sordid affair they had gotten themselves into. Ms. Jordan also got into an unhealthy co-dependency relationship, begun puffing her own stuff, and was caught in a law enforcement sting operation where the small fry got incarcerated and the big fish got away.

Evidently oblivious, if not criminally negligent, of her release and deportation, the Attorney General's Office a month later filed action to move forward with Ms. Jordan's deportation. Almost two months after the AG's awakening, Ms. Jordan still languished in jail until she sought counsel, was given a bail hearing and subsequently released. Ms. Jordan was illegally jailed for a total of 88 days.

A chastened Ms. Jordan had forsaken all her properties in her business concerns and consented to return to her home of origin. Through counsel, she complained to the court of the violation of her civil rights, which included culpability of the Attorney General's Office, but was willing to reach an amicable and confidential settlement of her claim.

Given our previous "sanctuary" service, we became a party to Ms. Jordan's vulnerable situation, appealing to the Attorney General's Office for an expeditious resolution of the matter so that Ms. Jordan who is bereft of any means of self-support may finally find her way home. The AG's office apparently concurred with the "going home" part but ignored due process. Though scheduled for a hearing Nov. 12, the AG's office ordered Ms. Jordan's deportation Oct. 29, in spite of being reminded that the stay of execution is mandatory when a hearing is on course. Further, the AG's Criminal division informed counsel the weekend of the 23rd that preceded a Monday typhoon and alerted the respondent Wednesday morning with a departure only 15 hours later. No amount of pleading to the AG's office and Immigration officials was going to deoperationalize the deportation.

Not wanting to appear in need of a political favor just before the election, we stayed away from the governor's fiat, though we suspected he might have been inclined to pursue an out-of-court settlement.

Counsel's eleventh hour filing of the stay of execution, and Judge Wiseman's concurrence, averted what could have been a disastrous event for Ms. Jordan, and a legal quagmire for the AG's office. Governor Fitial's Office was previously apprised of the situation two weeks before but this advocate was diverted to the AG's office. In this case, it appears that the AG is slow to recognize that justice delayed is justice denied!

Hapless Ms. Jordan will have to wait for her hearing Nov. 12 that will determine the merit of her claim. She could return a pauper to a daughter who was barely seven years of age nine years ago. With a settlement award, Ms. Jordan can start her restaurant business again for whose case she came to labor in Saipan in the first place. The China that she left behind is no longer the China of today, and she is clear she has a new life to recreate all over again, if and when the AG's office decides to play fairly in the judicial process of the realm. Meantime, we're planning to lend our paralegal skills to the island's legal profession.

*(*Some facts in this story are deliberately made inaccurate. It aims neither to condone nor exonerate a felon. It is, nevertheless, a true story.)*

**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Letters to the Editor

# This is it

The time is upon us once again, the general election is about to proceed. And come Sunday, we will know who our next senators, representatives, councilmembers, mayors, and quite possibly our next governor will be, who will make the decisions on what road our Commonwealth will embark to get over the hardships we are facing now. The cast of characters is one which some may say cannot be compared to previous elections. We have incumbents, fresh faces, former lawmakers, successful businessmen and distinguished educators, community leaders, and even a former governor, all seeking election to higher office. The only thing that stands between them and the titles they seek are us.

We are tasked with a mammoth responsibility, deciding on who will be the best candidates to carry us out of a desert that the CNMI has found itself in. It has led to businesses closing, people resorting to alternative and sometimes dangerous means to survive due to being laid off or not being able to find a job, and it has even triggered people to take their families and leave paradise for greener pastures elsewhere. A place can only take so much so long, but now the call for change cannot be ignored.

The people we elect this weekend will have a lot on their plate to deal with after they are sworn in this January. They stem from rectifying situations with the local utility, working to improve the condition of the NMI's health care, preparing for federalization, and even deciding on the fate of Article 12 two years from now. Never in this Commonwealth's 31-year history has so much been at stake, which is why we cannot just vote for who we're asked, or told to vote for. This vote should be yours and yours alone.

All of us have heard the platforms from the beginning of the year up until the present moment. Some have told you to don't stop believing, vote for proven leadership, or select those who will come up with solutions by working hard from many years of experience. All of them agree on one thing, that the Commonwealth deserves better, and it does. They all have made the economy and education a priority, along with ensuring a safe place for the CNMI's residents to call home. However the message may be, it is up to us to see which one is the best for mother Commonwealth.

For many of us, the choices for us will be easy, yet for some of us the process may be a little excruciating. But the steps taken to better these islands are necessary steps to improve the quality of life for you, I, and the ones who will take after us down the road. Election in, and election out, promises have been made and been broken; sometimes votes cast have been a result of those promises. This election requires all of us not to vote based on promises alone, but rather by the character of the candidates we choose and the confidence we have that they will do the job once they take office. The moment you step into those polls, you will be overwhelmed with thoughts of who will be the right choice, but if you follow your heart along with research of what each has said to entice you to choose them, the ballot butterflies you may feel will not be so hard to overcome.

As I write this, I am reminded of an old phrase an old colleague of mine in the Youth Congress used to say to honor the memory of his late father. I paraphrase the beginning of that quote, which goes, "the winds of political change are becoming a tropical storm." For many years, we have waited for these winds of change to blow through the islands to clean out what has made us suffer for so many years. However, campaign after campaign, that storm would turn into a tropical depression. We need now, once and for all, to make sure that these winds upon us will pack a punch that not only will blow leaves off a coconut tree, but blow the crises our islands are in away so that the next generation will not have to inherit the problems we're in right now. We are responsible for their future; we cannot have them grow up with the realization of having to be responsible for cleaning up messes that weren't even theirs to begin with.

Like the title of Michael Jackson's new movie, this is it. The ball is in our court again. Each of us, myself included, will be preparing to walk into the polls, and take a No. 2 pencil and fill in name bubbles of those who we feel will be the best person to tackle the challenges we're facing. A task so simple, yet wields great power. The lives of future generations will rest on the very names we fill in, which is why it is important to vote with your head, not just with your heart.

Whether you go blue, red, or green, what ultimately happens in the long run is that however way we decide this weekend will affect how this Commonwealth will turn out to be in the next few years. Don't cast your votes with bad intentions, and don't vote holding a grudge. The right candidates may have been already decided in your mind, but before you put pen to paper, make sure those choices are the best ones for the job. Otherwise, we will have another four years for a way to fix things.

Last year, history was made when we elected the first NMI delegate to the U.S. Congress. After nearly half a millennium of colonial rule, our islands were finally given a voice to bring our concerns to a national stage. However, that voice we elected could not have gotten there without the votes he received. The power to decide is a right no one can ever take for granted, and if you believe casting your vote is more than just filling in bubbles, then there is no need to tell you what to do. However if there was a sentence I could say to sum up what needs to be done from 7am to 7pm today, it is this: "Make the right choice, and let your pencil be your voice." It's BOTA TIME ladies and gentlemen. Be safe at the polls.

**L.J. Castro**
*Fina Sisu, Saipan*

# Islands of Thieves, circa 2009

Once again, I have been reminded of just how miserably our government has continually failed us. I took some costumers to Wing Beach for a dive Wednesday afternoon, and upon returning to my van after the second dive, I discovered that someone had tried breaking into my van and had destroyed the driver's side lock, not allowing me to open that door any longer. After talking with a few other people in the parking lot, I discovered that the thief had also stolen a laptop from a tourist who was at the beach. Wing Beach has been a favorite stop for thieves for many years now. This has been brought to the attention of Marianas Visitors Authority repeatedly, and they even promised to post a guard there this year, but of course it was just one more broken promise from a broken down administration. I guess it was more important to them to spend their budget on junkets and travels than on protection for our residents and tourists. I even wasted my time sitting through some Dive Association meetings with MVA, sharing my concerns about the dive sites and recommending several things they could easily do to enhance the sites. Not a single recommendation mentioned by anyone was ever acted upon. It seemed to be more of what we have come to expect from government, just another useless meeting where they never intended to do anything in the first place. So now we have yet another tourist going back home to tell all their family and friends about their visit to the Islands of Thieves. Great marketing strategy we have going on there!

And yes we have once again become known as the Islands of Thieves. The proof is in the plague of pawnshops that have sprung all over the island. They are really nothing more than a convenient way for the thieves to turn in their stolen goods for cash. The last time I counted, I found over 50 pawnshops! That is absolutely insane for somewhere the size of Saipan. But if we are going to allow them, then why don't we at least try to make them as accountable as possible? Shouldn't they all be required to have all their goods on display, not tucked away in a back room? Shouldn't they all be required to have constant video surveillance, so it would be easier to prove that the thief brought the merchandise in? The truth of the matter is our lawmakers and elected officials have not really wanted to protect us from the thieves; otherwise they would have.

Tourism is all we have left, aside from going to Uncle Sam with our hands out, and yet we're too busy filing frivolous lawsuits against the federal government to take care of what we have and make sure that it is in good condition for our tourists. Diving is one of the main attractions for our tourists, and Lau Lau is probably our most frequented dive site. But the road leading to Lau Lau beach is impassable to any vehicle that is not 4X4 with very high clearance. The part of the road coming down from Kagman has now collapsed into a drainage ditch at the bottom and is not safe to cross any longer, and the road coming in from San Vicente is so washed out in one spot that you're risking doing serious damage to your vehicle if you attempt to cross it. But instead of doing anything to fix the roads even temporarily, our lame duck government just sits there ignoring the problem, realizing that their days in office are about up anyway. So now one of our main dive sites is off limits for many of the dive operators on the island. What a great way to encourage them to stick it out here and try to help rebuilding the economy.

This letter is not for the current administration; you have already failed miserably and have shown to us that you just don't care. This is for the next administration. Please take tourism seriously and do everything within your power to protect our tourists and their valuables. If you don't, the thieves will eventually be coming after you because there will be no tourist left.

**Harry B. Blalock**
*Fina Sisu, Saipan*

# Message from the Commonwealth Retirement Association

Congratulation to all of you candidates on Election Day! You have shown that each one of you is very interested to serve us, the public. Some of you will win while most of you will lose. You have shown your intellectual maturity by not having a dirty campaign like the old days. As you take your oath in public office, please think of the people first before your own interest. Think of your elders—the retirees and future retirees—who really need your help to assist the NMI Retirement Fund from getting bankrupt. There are over 8,000 individuals who are counting on your help to look for revenues resources and cutting government (Legislature, Judiciary and Executive) operating expenses to pay more than $245 million in unpaid government contribution and over $500 million in unfunded liabilities. Working together as our leaders, I know the solution to this very serious financial problem with the NMI Retirement Fund can be resolved. Good luck to each one of you.

**Juan Manglona Sablan**
*Chairman, Commonwealth Retirement Association*

# A line on the sand

To our indigenous people: Today, you will be asked to draw a line. Specifically, you will be asked to either stay where you are standing or cross it in favor of protecting our rights as indigenous people to self-government and sole landowners of Marianas public land.

If you recall, only one person stood for your rights as the indigenous people of the Marianas. He is Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who took the federal government to court for violating our rights to self-government under the Covenant.

Gubernatorial candidates Heinz S. Hofschneider, Ramon S. Deleon Guerrero (Kumoi) and Juan T. Guerrero (Pan) have no plans to protect these rights as acknowledged in a news article (*Saipan Tribune*, Thursday, Oct. 29).

Hofschneider spoke about "equality," saying the diversity of the NMI today makes it appropriate to grant non-indigenous people rights to landownership. Their basis for preaching a wobbly personal concept on "equality" will translate into the marginalization of the indigenous people. It means opening the floodgates to turn our people into minorities in our own land by allowing foreigners to intrude into our rights under Article 12.

This election isn't about the political careers of any of the four gubernatorial tandems. It is about our rights as indigenous people to self-government and landowners of Marianas public land.

When you draw that line today, please cross it over and vote for Gov. Benigno R. Fitial. Let's join him protect our rights to self-government and sole ownership of Marianas public land.

He is the essence of real leadership, true and tried, and understands the dire need to protect what is the right of our people inherent under the Covenant.

Your vote in his favor is a vote to protecting against becoming minorities in our own islands. Fanachu Chamorro yan Refalawasch pot direchun miyu. Si Yuus Maase ` yan Ghilisow!

**Martin C. Sablan**
*San Roque, Saipan*

## ERRATUM

In the letter to the editor "Privatization: Good or bad" that was published in yesterday's edition of the *Saipan Tribune*, we inadvertently omitted a certain section of Mr. Frederick Prosser's letter, rendering the sentence incomprehensible. The section in question should have stated: "The only reason that we have a problem in the power plant is politics. It does not matter how good a person is; he or she will not be hired if they are not with the political party in power. So you end up with a bunch of political hires that are incompetent and making decisions that hurt us all. This practice must be stopped. Politics is fine for the administration but it should go no lower than that. If there is a vacancy, the most qualified person should get the job, regardless of what party they belong to." Our apologies.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Light and variable winds. | Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Light and variable winds. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. |
| ▲86° ▼77° | ▲86° ▼77° | ▲86° ▼77° | ▲86° ▼77° | ▲87° ▼77° |

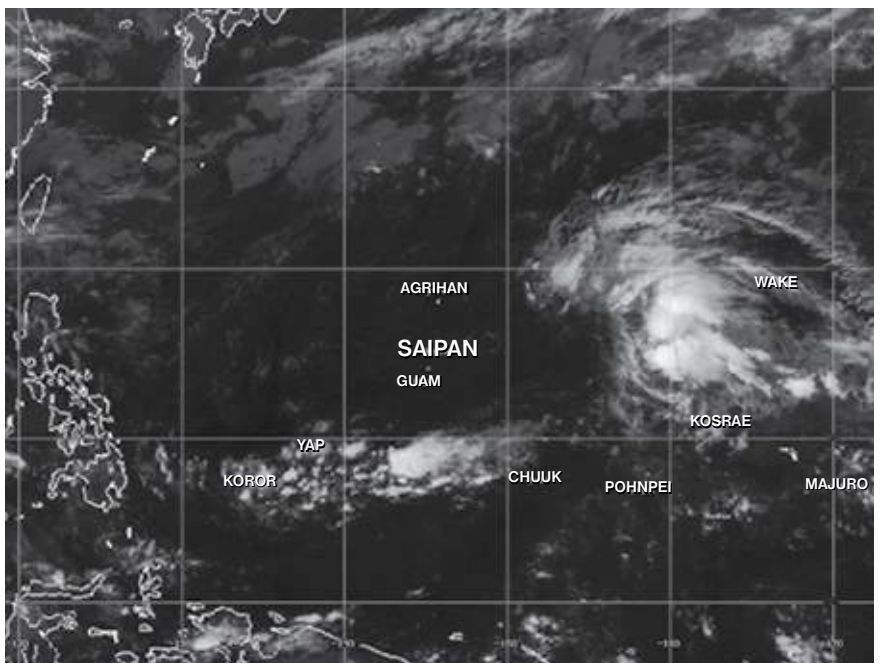
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Mostly Sunny | ▲84 | ▼75 |
| Palau | Showers | ▲88 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲87 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲88 | ▼78 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲88 | ▼73 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲89 | ▼76 |
| Majuro | Mostly Sunny | ▲86 | ▼77 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Sunny | ▲63 | ▼53 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲67 | ▼45 |
| Hong Kong | Mostly Sunny | ▲83 | ▼75 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲83 | ▼73 |
| London | Cloudy | ▲54 | ▼39 |
| Los Angeles | Mostly Cloudy | ▲70 | ▼54 |
| Manila | Showers | ▲86 | ▼75 |
| Melbourne | Mostly Sunny | ▲86 | ▼60 |
| Miami | Showers | ▲81 | ▼72 |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | ▲53 | ▼44 |
| Osaka | Sunny | ▲71 | ▼52 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲49 | ▼38 |
| Pusan | Sunny | ▲72 | ▼55 |
| Rome | Sunny | ▲61 | ▼53 |
| Salem | Rain | ▲53 | ▼40 |
| San Francisco | Cloudy | ▲63 | ▼49 |
| Seoul | Mostly Cloudy | ▲69 | ▼53 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Sunny | ▲68 | ▼54 |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | ▲58 | ▼45 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends eastward from 7N130E to a weak circulation near 5N144E then curves northeastward to another circulation near 14N156E then northward to 20N157E. An upper-level low is near 17N153E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southwest of Wake Island are in a large area from 21N150E to 21N160E to 13N170E to 13N160E to 17N158E to 18N150E back to 21N150E. Converging northeast winds are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Palau and Yap between 6N and 10N from 133E to 148E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers near Majuro within 75 miles of a line from 7N172E to 7N174E.

## Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4:33 AM Today | Low Tide: | 0.6 Feet |
| 12:01 PM Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |
| 5:15 PM Today | Low Tide: | 1.4 Feet |
| 9:37 PM Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:15 AM | 5:46 PM |
| Sunday | 6:16 AM | 5:46 PM |
| Monday | 6:16 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:16 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:17 AM | 5:45 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 9:57 PM | 10:22 AM |
| Sunday | 10:59 PM | 11:17 AM |
| Monday | 11:59 PM | 12:07 AM |
| Tuesday | | 12:52 AM |
| Wednesday | 12:55 AM | 1:34 PM |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 4, 2009

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09597 | 11:30am | 12:05pm | 1, 7 |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09597 | 12:40pm | 1:10pm | 1, 7 |

**SAIPAN-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09317 | 4:45am | 5:35am | Daily |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily |
| C09597 | 11:30am | 1:10pm | 1, 7 via ROP |
| C09601 | 12:20pm | 1:10pm | 4, 5 |
| C09603 | 3:15pm | 4:05pm | Daily |
| C09605 | 6:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:20pm | 10:10pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW287 | 6:00am | 8:40am | Daily |
| NW297 | 4:45pm | 7:30pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ604 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ606 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CZ3008 | 3:30am | 6:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604/701 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ604/701 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ604/703 | 2:50am | 11:25am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09603/933 | 3:15pm | 9:40pm | Daily via GUM |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:20pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604/721 | 2:10am | 12:00pm | 1 via ICN |
| OZ604/721 | 2:40am | 12:00pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 3:30am | 4:05am | 5, 6 |
| C09312 | 1:20pm | 1:55pm | 6 |

**GUAM-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 2:20am | 2:50am | 5, 6 |
| C09312 | 12:10pm | 12:40pm | 6 |

**GUAM-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 2:20am | 4:05am | 5, 6 via ROP |
| C09316 | 2:20am | 3:10am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 |
| C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily |
| C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09312 | 12:10pm | 1:55pm | 6 via ROP |
| C09602 | 1:50pm | 2:40pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09604 | 4:50pm | 5:40pm | Daily |
| C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW298 | 10:05pm | 2:50pm | Daily |
| NW288 | 8:45pm | 1:20am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 2:20am+1 | 4, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | 4, 7 |
| OZ603 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CZ3007 | 7:30pm | 2:40am+1 | 1, 5 |

**MANILA-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:30am+1 via ICN | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:10pm | 7:50am+1 via GUM | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 |
| C0934/9596 | 11:10pm | 7:50am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| OZ704/605 | 11:55pm | 2:20pm+1 | 2,4,6,7 via ICN |

**HONG KONG-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ724/605 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2,4,6,7 via ICN |
| OZ750/605 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | 2,4,6,7 via ICN |
| OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| **Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |

## Schedule of Religious Services

### CATHOLIC

**Mt. Carmel Cathedral**
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

**Korean Center**
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

**Kristo Rai Parish**
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

**Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish**
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

**Saint Jude Parish**
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

**San Antonio Parish**
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

**San Francisco de Borja-Rota**
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

**San Isidro-Rota**
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

**San Jose (Oleai) Parish**
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

**San Roque Parish**
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

**San Vicente Parish**
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

**Santa Remedios**
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

**Santa Soledad**
Sunday: 7:30am

### PROTESTANT

**Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan**
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

**Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

**Chinese Christian Church of Saipan**
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

**Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan**
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

**Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan**
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

**Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan**
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

**Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan**
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

**Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville**
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

**Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)**
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

**Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan**
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

**Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

**Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan**
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

**Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan**
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

**Missions Connection Ministry**
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

**Northern Marianas Christian Church**
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

**Saipan Bible Fellowship Church**
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

**Saipan Christian Church**
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

**Saipan Church of Christ**
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

**Saipan Community Church**
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan**
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

**First Baptist Church**
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday | | |
| | 9am | Sunday school |
| | 10am | Regular worship |
| | 6pm | worship |
| Wednesday | | |
| | 7pm | worship |

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

**Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center**
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

**Upper Room International Ministries**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday | 5:30am-6:30am | |
| Morning prayer | | |
| | 7am-9am | English service |
| | 7am-9am | Sunday school |
| | 10am-12noon | English service, |

Koblerville

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Wednesday | 7pm-9pm | Prayer meeting |
| Saturday | 7pm-9pm | Tagalog service |

Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

**Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church**
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

#### Nov. 7, 2000

**Teno calls for unity**
Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday called for unity in the Republican Party following Saturday's open primary that saw the defeat of Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan in seeking the nomination as its official gubernatorial candidate in next year's election. "I am happy that the primary is [over] and people went out and voted for their choice," the Republican governor told reporters in an interview. "People have spoken, so it's about time that we work together and see what will happen in the coming year," he added.

**NMI, RP to sign labor pact in Manila**
A five-man delegation from the Northern Marianas is flying to Manila in two weeks to finalize the amendment to the existing labor agreement between the Commonwealth and the Philippine governments. CNMI officials are scheduled to meet with their Philippine counterparts on Nov. 20 and 21 in Manila for the formal signing of the amendments to the Bilateral Labor Agreement which officially closes the Commonwealth Liaison Office in Makati City. Labor and Immigration Secretary Mark Zachares will lead the CNMI delegation that will also include the labor director, an assistant attorney general and a representative from the office of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio.

#### Nov. 7, 2001

**Businesses urged to donate to educational institutions**
The Grace Christian Academy made a pitch yesterday for businesses and individuals to avail of tax credits by giving up to $5,000 to nonprofit educational institutions in the CNMI. Speaking before the Rotary Club's Tuesday meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel-Saipan, GCA's fundraising coordinator Kimberly Lunn said this program allows businesses to have the opportunity "to choose where your valuable tax dollars are being spent." The program is embodied in Public Law 10-73, which was enacted into law in 1997 primarily to support education in the Commonwealth. "Instead of just handing over your hard-earned money and letting the government decide where the money should go, you can choose to give that money back to your community through education," she said.

**BB Administration gears up for tough times**
Members of the incoming Republican government conceded that they have a tough year ahead of them, not only in terms of turning around the sour economy but also proving themselves worthy of their overwhelming mandate. Lt. Gov.-elect Diego Benavente said that now, more than ever, he feels that people have mandated them to implement the changes that their party has offered. "I know it's going to be tough. Many people have told us that but I've always believed from the beginning that we can do it," said Benavente. "The overwhelming mandate now requires us to proceed with our plans, with our ideas, with our proposals. With the support of the candidates who've won in this election, I really believe that we can do that," he added.

#### Nov. 7, 2002

**Camacho-Moylan team wins**
Republican standard bearers Felix Camacho and Kaleo Moylan take the highest posts in the Government of Guam, racing ahead of their Democrat-rivals with more than 4,400 votes, according to unofficial final general elections results released Wednesday. Unofficial tally of election returns indicated that Camacho and Moylan rallied with 23,440 votes, making them the next Guam Governor and Lieutenant Governor, respectively. Former Washington Delegate and Democratic Party standard bearer Robert Underwood and his running mate, Tom Ada, however, gave the Camacho-Moylan tandem a good fight, earning 18,980 votes. Democratic Party's Madeleine Z. Bordallo, incumbent lieutenant governor, made history as Guam's first woman Washington Delegate.

**CNMI congratulates new Guam leadership**
CNMI government leaders yesterday passed on good wishes to the new slate of elected Guam leaders, especially congratulating the victorious tandem of Governor-elect Felix Camacho and Lt. Gov.-elect Kaleo Moylan who won Guam's gubernatorial polls Tuesday. Gov. Juan N. Babauta said that he and Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente are looking forward to working with the Camacho-Moylan administration in addressing issues of mutual concern-specifically in the areas of health, tourism and education.

# Business

## Productivity gains may be bad news for job seekers

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Companies across the economy are finding ways to do more with fewer workers, dimming hopes that hiring will take off anytime soon.

Employers became leaner and more efficient in the third quarter. Wages, meantime, remain flat or falling. The result is that productivity—output per hour of work—jumped at the fastest pace in six years.

The good news for companies, though, may be bad news for the jobless. As long as companies can get their workers to produce more, they have little reason to hire—at least until consumer spending picks up. And the squeeze on incomes could depress consumer spending, putting the economic recovery at risk.

Still, some economists were encouraged by the productivity report. They say that eventually, employers won't be able to squeeze more from their staffs. They will then have to ramp up hiring—something that could happen next year, even though the jobless rate is expected to hit double digits.

Productivity rose at an annual rate of 9.5 percent in the July-September quarter, the Labor Department said Thursday. That was much better than the 6.4 percent gain economists had expected. Unit labor costs fell at a 5.2 percent rate.

While companies aren't doing much hiring, they're not cutting as many workers, either. The number of newly laid-off workers filing claims for unemployment benefits last week fell to the lowest level in 10 months.

On Wall Street, the better-than-expected jobless claims report and an upbeat forecast from Cisco Systems Inc. buoyed investors. The Dow Jones industrial average added nearly 204 points to 10,005.96, and broader indexes also gained.

The 9.5 percent productivity rise followed a 6.9 percent surge in the second quarter and was the fastest since a 9.7 percent increase in the third quarter of 2003.

The gain reflected that the overall economy, as measured by the gross domestic product, grew for the first time in a year—at an annual rate of 3.5 percent. The higher output came as companies continued to lay off workers. That meant employers produced more with fewer workers.

The 5.2 percent drop in unit labor costs marked the third straight decline and was larger than the 4 percent decrease economists were expecting.

Productivity is the key ingredient to rising living standards. It lets companies pay their workers higher wages. Those increases tend to be financed by increased output, rather than higher costs for products.

## Citi files plans to spin off Primerica in IPO

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Citigroup Inc. filed plans for an initial public offering of its Primerica Inc. life insurance unit late Thursday, and said it will sell the rest of the unit after it goes public.

Divesting Primerica is part of Citi's effort to simplify its operations and raise cash. The bank, one of the hardest hit during the credit crisis and recession, has reported huge losses in the past two years as its investments and consumer loans and credit cards soured.

Citi will sell all the Primerica shares being offered in the IPO, and receive all proceeds from the stock sale.

Primerica has about 100,000 sales representatives selling life insurance and investment products like mutual funds, mostly to middle-income households. It earned $244.7 million on $1.09 billion in revenue in the first six months of this year, down from profit of $269.1 million on $1.19 billion revenue in the first six months of 2008.

The unit has its roots in a company called A.L. Williams & Assoc., formed in 1977 to market term life insurance using independent sales representatives. The company expanded rapidly to become one of the country's largest life insurance sellers, and went public in 1982. Citi acquired the company in the late 1980s.

Citigroup received $45 billion in loans from the U.S. government, which now owns a 34 percent stake in the bank. It has also received guarantees to protect against losses on more than $300 billion in risky assets.

As part of its efforts to recover, Citigroup is selling a wide range of the assets it acquired over the years as it became one of the world's largest players in banking, insurance and financial services.

Last month, Citi sold its commodities trading unit and its Japanese brokerage. It has also sold some of its credit card assets.

In September, CEO Vikram Pandit confirmed the bank plans to eventually sell the remaining stake in its Smith Barney brokerage venture to Morgan Stanley, which owns the other half. It is also reportedly looking to sell off branches in certain parts of the country.

# Nation

# Army: 12 dead, 31 hurt in attack at Fort Hood

**FORT HOOD, Texas** (AP)—An Army psychiatrist set to be shipped overseas opened fire at the Fort Hood Army post Thursday, authorities said, a rampage that killed 12 people and left 31 wounded in the worst mass shooting ever at a military base in the United States.

The gunman, first said to have been killed, was wounded but alive and in stable condition under military guard, said Lt. Gen. Bob Cone at Fort Hood. "I would say his death is not imminent," Cone said. Col. Ben Danner said the suspect was shot four times and was in critical condition.

The man was identified as Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, a 39-year-old from Virginia.

President Barack Obama called the shooting at the Soldier Readiness Center, where soldiers who are about to be deployed or who are returning undergo medical screening, "a horrific outburst of violence."

"It's difficult enough when we lose these brave Americans in battles overseas," the commander in chief said. "It is horrifying that they should come under fire at an Army base on American soil."

There was no official word on motive. Hasan had transferred to Fort Hood in July from Walter Reed Medical Center, where he received a poor performance evaluation, according to an official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the case publicly.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, said generals at Fort Hood told her that Hasan was about to deploy overseas. Retired Col. Terry Lee, who said he had worked with Hasan, told Fox News he was being sent to Afghanistan.

Lee said Hasan had hoped Obama would pull troops out of Afghanistan and Iraq and got into frequent arguments with others in the military who supported the wars.

Faizul Khan, a former imam at a mosque Hasan attended in Silver Spring, Md., said he spoke often with Hasan about how Hasan wanted to find a wife. Hasan was a lifelong Muslim and attended prayers regularly, often in his Army uniform, Khan said.

The shooter used two pistols, one of them semiautomatic. Neither were military-issued, Danner said.

Video from the scene showed police patrolling the area with handguns and rifles, ducking behind buildings for cover. Sirens could be heard wailing while a woman's voice on a public-address system urged people to take cover.

"I was confused and just shocked," said Spc. Jerry Richard, 27, who works at the center but was not on duty during the shooting. "Overseas you are ready for it. But here you can't even defend yourself."

Soldiers at Fort Hood don't carry weapons unless they are doing training exercises.

AP

Soldiers from the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment storm the grounds of the Soldier Readiness Center in a show of force as they help in the apprehension of Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan Thursday Nov. 5, 2009.

# Unemployment nears 10 pct. as rebound remains slow

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The economy is rebounding from its deepest slump since the 1930s, but it probably won't seem that way when the government releases its monthly employment report on Friday.

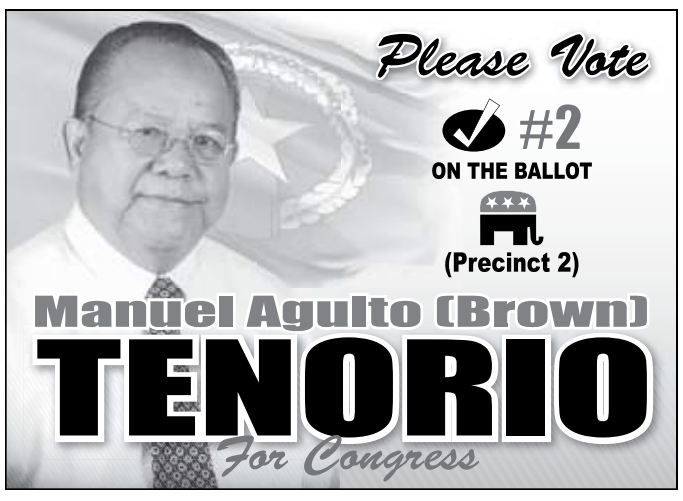
Employers aren't expected to start adding jobs for several more months. Many are skeptical about the strength and sustainability of the recovery,

The nation's economy probably lost a net total of 175,000 jobs in October, pushing the unemployment rate to 9.9 percent, according to a survey of Wall Street economists by Thomson Reuters. The Labor Department report is scheduled for release at 8:30 a.m. EST.

Most economists think the rate will eventually surpass 10 percent, a level last seen in June 1983.

The economy grew at a 3.5 percent annual rate in the July-September quarter, the government said last week, the strongest signal yet that the recession has ended. But that alone won't spur rapid hiring, raising the likelihood of a "jobless recovery."

"You need explosive growth to take the unemployment rate down," said Dan Greenhaus, chief economic strategist for New York-based investment firm Miller Tabak & Co.




# Obama, House Dems press for health care votes

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Barack Obama and House Democrats scrambled on Thursday to secure the votes to pass a historic health care overhaul initiative, working to ease disagreements with rank-and-file over abortion and illegal immigrations.

Obama met at the White House with several Hispanic lawmakers who oppose any prohibition on the ability of illegal immigrants to use their own money to purchase health coverage in a new government-run marketplace.

"He listened to us. We listened to him," said Rep. Nydia Velazquez, D-N.Y., head of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. "We made it very clear that 20 votes in the Hispanic caucus" depend on the language in the House bill. Currently, there is no prohibition in the legislation, but the White House backs such a ban and one exists in the Senate bill.

"I think that he got our message," Velazquez said.

House Rules Committee Chairwoman Louise Slaughter, D-N.Y., said later that she did not believe there would be any change to the House bill.

The second-ranking Democrat in the House said lawmakers would debate and vote Saturday on the $1.2-trillion, 10-year measure that expands coverage to millions of uninsured. In a major boost, the American Medical Association and the powerful seniors' lobby AARP both threw their weight behind the bill. AARP, with its 40 million members, promised to run ads and contact activists to gin up support.

Obama planned a rare visit to the House Friday morning to persuade wavering Democrats.

Democratic opponents of abortion—under pressure from Catholic bishops—want stronger provisions written in the bill that no federal funds would be used to finance abortion in coverage bought in the government-run exchange.

1 TORRES,
Stanley Tudela Mcginnis
For Representative
PRECINCT 3
Yes to Schools, Safety and Precinct 3 Resources
Always on watch for the people.
Thank you for your vote of confidence!

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Ohio woman: I got away from serial killing suspect

**CLEVELAND** (AP)—Suspected serial killer Anthony Sowell seemed like a "civilized person" on the April evening that Tanja Doss went up to his third-floor bedroom for a beer—until, she said, he leapt up and began choking her and threatening to kill her. The 43-year-old woman told The Associated Press on Thursday that she survived a night of terror through a combination of calm and cajoling, prayer and trickery. But when she escaped the next morning, she didn't tell police. Her past conviction on a drug charge, she said, made it unlikely they'd take her seriously. "Now, I feel bad about it," she said, "because my best friend might be one of the bodies." Police and a cadaver dog reentered the home Thursday where Sowell apparently lived among the reeking, rotting corpses of 10 women and the paper-wrapped skull of another in a basement bucket. The ex-Marine, who served 15 years in prison for attempted rape, is being held without bail on five aggravated murder charges.

### Fla. baby found alive in box under sitter's bed

**CHIPLEY, Fla.** (AP)—Investigators spent five days searching a rural area of dense vines and marshes for a missing infant, only to find her lying quietly in a 2-foot by 3-foot cedar box that had been shoved under her baby sitter's bed. Clothing was packed around it to muffle any sounds and baking soda placed inside to mask the stench of dirty diapers. Authorities said the baby's mother, Chrystina Lynn Mercer, gave the infant to baby sitter Susan Elizabeth Baker early Saturday, then reported her missing about 10 hours later. About 100 law enforcement agents and others spent days scouring around the baby's home in a remote, makeshift community of dirt roads, tin-roof shacks and old mobile homes. Searchers also dug through trash cans and bins. All along, the baby was under the bed. Washington County Sheriff Bobby Haddock choked up Thursday as he described how 7-month-old Shannon Dedrick was stashed in the box for 12 straight hours before investigators discovered her late Wednesday. They believe she had been in the closed box on and off for several days.

### Texas polygamist sect member guilty of sex assault

**ELDORADO, Texas** (AP)—The first polygamist sect member to face criminal trial following last year's raid at the Yearning For Zion Ranch in West Texas was convicted Thursday of sexually assaulting an underage girl with whom he had a so-called "spiritual marriage." Raymond Jessop, 38, didn't visibly react when the verdict was read after just more than two hours of jury deliberations. Free on bond during trial, he was immediately handcuffed and led to jail. Jurors were expected to return to court Monday to begin deciding his sentence on the child sexual assault conviction. He faces up to 20 years in prison. Lawyers in the case declined to comment on the verdict Thursday.

# Asia

## Embattled UN rethinking Afghan-Pakistan role

**KABUL** (AP)—The United Nations is sending about 600 foreign staff out of the country or into secure compounds because of the deadly Taliban attack on U.N. workers, warning the Afghan government Thursday that international support will wane unless it cracks down on corruption fueling the insurgency.

The decision follows a drawdown of U.N. operations in Pakistan, casting doubt on whether the world body can operate effectively in this region with war raging on both sides of the border. The moves come as the Obama administration nears a decision on whether to send tens of thousands more U.S. troops to Afghanistan to try to curb the growth of the Taliban.

AP

A burned down room is seen in the destroyed guesthouse that left five U.N. staffers dead in Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009.

The U.N. insists the staff relocations—which affect more than half the organization's foreign staff in Afghanistan and a modest number in Pakistan—are temporary.

## Chinese activist risks jail with letter to Obama

**BEIJING** (AP)—Thousands of people will send letters to President Barack Obama this year. Few besides Yang Zili are likely to risk jail by doing so.

A Chinese dissident recently freed after eight years in prison, Yang said Thursday that he is seeking Obama's help in gaining medical parole for two friends who were jailed with him for forming a political study group.

The letter is among a number of appeals beginning to emerge ahead of Obama's arrival in China Nov. 15, with most seeking freedom for detained activists and a stronger line from the administration on human rights concerns.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### India restricts coverage of Dalai Lama's trip

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—India effectively barred foreign journalists Thursday from covering a rare visit by the Dalai Lama to a Buddhist monastery close to Tibet in an apparent effort to ease Chinese anger by reducing news coverage of the trip. The exiled Tibetan spiritual leader's planned visit Sunday to the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh—the heart of a long-running border dispute between China and India—has inflamed already heightened tensions between the Asian powers. Foreigners traveling to the remote mountainous state need special permission from the Indian government. Most foreign journalists did not receive permission to cover the Dalai Lama's visit. On Thursday, four journalists who had been given permits—including two Associated Press staffers—had them revoked.

#### US will not lift Myanmar sanctions

**BANGKOK** (AP)—The United States, although embarking on a new policy of engagement, will not lift its sanctions on Myanmar unless its ruling generals make concrete progress toward democratic reform, a senior U.S. diplomat said Thursday. U.S. Ambassador for ASEAN Affairs Scot Marciel spoke after he and another State Department official completed the highest-ranking visit to Myanmar in 14 years, putting into motion the Obama administration's new policy of "pragmatic engagement" with the isolated country. He made it clear that the stick would remain along with the new carrot, and that Washington would be closely watching the junta's next moves.

# World

## Palestinian shock: President says he wants to quit

**RAMALLAH, West Bank** (AP)—By announcing he doesn't want another term in office, embattled Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas pushed the Mideast peace effort into unknown territory Thursday, opening the way to a succession battle that could play into the hands of his rival, the militant Hamas.

But it also could boost the prospects of a popular candidate who reportedly wants to run for the presidency from his Israeli prison cell.

Abbas blamed his decision on the stalemate in peace talks, but the wording of his televised speech raised speculation that it was not final and could be a tactic for pushing Israel and the U.S. toward a larger compromise.

He said only that it was "desire not to run in the upcoming elections" which are set for January but could be delayed, extending his current term indefinitely.

Abbas took over after the death of Yasser Arafat in 2004, and Western leaders have come to see him as a symbol of moderation. Although criticized as indecisive and associated with the corruption-tainted old guard of his Fatah party, he has given free rein to his prime minister, Salam Fayyad, to reform the West Bank's economy and boost its police, which has resulted in a limited economic upturn.

But the stalemate with Israel overshadows all, and Fatah activists say the party is in a panic, fearing a fragmented slate of candidates that would hand victory to Hamas.

## Negotiators scale back UN climate pact ambitions

**BARCELONA, Spain** (AP)—With the U.S. Congress still struggling to agree on sharp cuts in greenhouse gases or how to fund them, European officials said Thursday they were now striving for a political agreement instead of a new treaty to allow the U.S. and other rich nations to make commitments that are not legally binding.

The revised thinking was an implicit admission of defeat: the two-year timetable for crafting a landmark treaty will miss its deadline, and that failure threatens to deepen the distrust between rich countries and poor nations reeling from drought and failing crops caused by persistently warmer weather.

The treaty had been due to be completed in December at a 192-nation conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

European and U.N. officials are now suggesting a political deal, rather than a legal accord, that would rely on commitments from both wealthy and developing countries. Industrial countries would commit to firm targets for reducing emissions of heat-trapping carbon dioxide and allocating funds for poor countries, while developing countries would specify their plans for low-carbon growth.

Such a deal would not be legally binding, but would carry the authority of world leaders who would come to Copenhagen to sign off on it. Nations would agree to stick to their promises while they continue negotiating the details of a treaty, taking as long as another year.

## Student stuns Iran by criticizing supreme leader

**BEIRUT** (AP)—An unassuming college math student has become an unlikely hero to many in Iran for daring to criticize the country's most powerful man to his face.

Mahmoud Vahidnia has received an outpouring of support from government opponents for the challenge—unprecedented in a country where insulting supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is a crime punishable by prison.

Perhaps most surprising, the young math whiz has so far suffered no repercussions from the confrontation at a question-and-answer session between Khamenei and students at Tehran's Sharif Technical University.

In fact, Iran's clerical leadership appears to be touting the incident as a sign of its tolerance—so much so that some Iranians at first believed the 20-minute exchange was staged by the government, though opposition commentators are now convinced Vahidnia was the real thing.

Details of the encounter were reported on the state news agency IRNA and in a pro-government newspaper, Keyhan, which gave its account with a headline reading, "The revolutionary leader's fatherly response to critical youth." Even Khamenei's official Web site mentioned the incident.

Northern Mariana Islands
RETIREMENT FUND

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its Special meeting on Monday, November 9, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.

**AGENDA**

I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
   A. Call to Order
   B. Roll Call
   C. Adoption of Agenda
II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
III. **OLD BUSINESS**
   A. Aetna Renewal
IV. **NEW BUSINESS**
   A. Civil Action No. 09-00023
V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
VI. **MISCELLANEOUS**
   A. Announcements
   B. Next Meeting
   C. Adjournment

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# Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, November 7, 2009


# UN chief: Better protection of migrants' rights

**MANILA, Philippines** (INQUIRER.net)—In an era where people are crossing borders in greater numbers seeking better opportunities, it is more vital than ever that states safeguard the rights of migrants, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon told a high-level gathering in Athens Wednesday.

"Let us never forget than in the end, policies and laws are really about people and values," he said in his remarks to the opening of the third Global Forum on Migration and Development, which were e-mailed to media outfits by the UN office in Manila.

The Secretary General noted that the number of international migrants today is greater than at anytime in history, with 214 million people living outside their country of birth.

Highlighting the good that such mobility can generate, he said that, when managed well, global migration greatly improves human welfare and development. Also, migrants contribute to development in their homelands by transferring remittances and transmitting new ideas and technologies.

Meanwhile, in countries of destination, migrants fill gaps in labor demand and skills to make the economy more productive.

"But we have work ahead of us," he told the gathering. "Around the world, migration is often the subject of shrill debate—a wedge to provoke social tensions, drive political extremes, fan the flames of discrimination and hatred.

"We cannot yet say that the development potential of international migration is being fully realized. We cannot yet declare that the rights of migrants are being fully respected."

He noted that the conditions in which many migrants move and live continue to be "treacherous," that human trafficking and sexual exploitation are disturbing realities and, in many parts of the world, migrant workers still face appalling working conditions.

Ban called on all countries to work together to tackle migration, highlighting three challenges that add to the urgency for action—the economic crisis, climate change, and the scourge of human trafficking, particularly of women and girls.

"As we look to these challenges, we recognize that in many ways, migration is not just a journey of people—it is a journey of policy," he said.

"Our destination is a global system of mobility that allows people to move in legal, safe, and orderly ways—with full respect for their dignity."

The Secretary General reiterated the importance of promoting and protecting the basic human rights of all migrants, regardless of their legal status, during a press conference with Teodora Tzakri, the Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralization and E-Governance of Greece.

AP

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon makes a statement after his meeting with Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou at the Premier's office in Athens on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009.

"Providing basic rights, access to education, social safety networks, sanitation and health—these are basic, which each and every country should provide," he stated.

Ban also met with Prime Minister George Papandreou, with whom he discussed a number of regional and global issues, including climate change, migration and development, Cyprus, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, UN peacekeeping operations and reform, and also piracy and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)—the global anti-poverty targets with a 2015 deadline.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, the Secretary General said he will spare no effort to facilitate progress on the UN-backed talks between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders aimed at unifying the Mediterranean island.

**'PA-KWARENTA'**

Protesters and typhoon victims light candles by the Marikina Riverbank east of Manila, Philippines Wednesday Nov. 4, 2009, to observe the 40th day of the worst flooding in 42 years in the capital that has also killed more than 200 people in Marikina and in the neighboring township of Cainta. The fourth typhoon to hit the country in as many weeks lashed the capital and nearby provinces last weekend leaving fresh floods and adding more misery to recent deadly storms before blowing out of the country and heading to Vietnam.

AP

# Foreign aid for calamity victims still pouring in

**MANILA, Philippines**—Cash and relief goods for victims of tropical storms Ondoy and Pepeng are still arriving from foreign donors, the Department of Foreign Affairs said Wednesday.

The Asean Ladies Circle in Malaysia donated 3,000 ringgits (P48,000) which were used to purchase 12,000 water purification tablets, the Philippine embassy in Kuala Lumpur said in a report to the DFA headquarters in Manila. Established in 2005, the ALC is a civic association of women of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations community in Malaysia.

In Taiwan, the Manila Economic and Cultural Office said a 20-foot container van with relief goods would be shipped this weekend to Manila.

Antonio Basilio, Meco managing director and resident representative, said the assorted relief goods—including blankets, clothing, footwear, and food—were collected from thousands of kind-hearted Filipinos and Taiwanese.

He particularly thanked the Taiwanese Council of Labor Affairs and the Ugnayan Migrant and Immigrant Centers in Taipei and Taichung, Fo Guang Monastery, Taiwan Root Medical Mission, Taiwan International Health Action, and the Tagalog Fellowship of the Taipei International Church for joining in the charity drive.

In Hong Kong, the Philippine consulate general reported that the Filipino community in the Chinese territory raised about P4 million and sent more than 11 tons of relief goods.

Cash donations amounted to HK$ 667,002.39 (about P4 million) and over 750 packages of relief goods were collected as of October 31, according to the consulate.

The Philippine Bankers Club, an organization of Hong Kong-based Philippine banks, said they remitted, free of bank charges, cash donations of HK$400,794.69 (P2.404 million).

Similarly, Operation Migrante Sagip Kabayan by United Filipinos in Hong Kong reported cash donations amounting to HK$98,691.40 (P592,148.40).

The amount raised was for the benefit of Bayanihan Alay sa Sambayanan which benefited more than 7,000 families in Quezon City, Caloocan City, Rizal, and Laguna, among others.

On the other hand, the Filipino Catholic community in Hong Kong remitted HK$75,961.30 (P455,767.8) to Caritas Filipinas Foundation in Manila.

Other top donors included the Fortis Insurance Company (Asia) Ltd., which donated HK$50,000 (P300,000) to the Philippine National Red Cross and the Hong Kong Bayanihan Trust, a center that runs a skills-training facility for migrant workers, which sent 133 packages worth of relief goods to Manila. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer )***

**LABOR FRONT**

# Other issues on 'umbrella permit'


**By FERDIE PONCE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorres@saipantribune.com
REPORTER


**Q: Does the two-year transition conditional permit or "umbrella permit" in compliance with federal law?**

**A:** According to the CNMI Department of Labor, Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act provides that any CNMI-issued permit that is in existence on Nov. 27, 2009, will be honored for two years after the transition date. The transition date is currently set for Nov. 28, 2009. Labor says that in order to remain within the requirements of the CNRA, the "umbrella permits" will be issued as of Nov. 27, 2009, and extend to Nov. 27, 2011. The worker will hold the "umbrella permit" for the entire two-year period unless Labor revokes it.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q: What is the effect of the "umbrella permit" on existing Labor processes?**

**A:** Labor says the "umbrella permit" is designed to place current Labor processes with two exceptions. The first exception is that Labor will not enforce employment categories. The other exception is Labor will not impose an island limitation.

With respect to non-enforcement of employment categories, Labor says it was designed to keep garment workers in the garment industry and not allow them to drift over into other employment. Labor says that is no longer relevant because of the closures of garment factories.

With respect to non-enforcement of employment categories, Labor says it was designed for an era of paper records. Labor officials say they now have the same computer system on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and do not need this limitation.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q: What is the agreement of the holders in signing the "umbrella permit"?**

**A:** Labor says under the existing transfer system, they ask the workers who request extensions of time to transfer to sign an agreement to meet all their own medical expenses and repatriation expenses that are not covered by an employer. Labor says they will use that approach in the "umbrella permit" as well, and ask the permit holder to sign the standard agreement set out on the face of the permit.

The conditions contained in the permit are set out on a separate document translated into Chinese, Tagalog, and Korean. Labor will also designated special days for Japanese, Bangladeshis, and other nationalities when they will have translators on hand.


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# Manny Pacquiao eyes history again with 7th title

**LOS ANGELES** (Philippine Daily Inquirer)—To pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao, size really doesn't matter.

The Filipino boxing hero, gearing up for a world title clash with Puerto Rico's Miguel Cotto that could give Pacquiao yet another slice of boxing history, doesn't put much stock in those who say Cotto's superior size could prove too much.

"I have heard that a couple of times the past two years," Pacquiao said with a smile on Wednesday as reporters, photographers and TV cameramen jammed Hollywood's Wild Card boxing club to see him train.

After all, Pacquiao's most recent victories have come against bigger opponents.

Admittedly Oscar De La Hoya was past his prime when Pacquiao stopped him in the eighth round in December of 2008.

On May 2, Pacquiao knocked out Britain's Ricky Hatton in the second round of their junior welterweight clash.

"It's not about comparing size, not about comparing power," Pacquiao insisted. "Knowledge is power. You don't have knowledge, you don't have power."

Pacquiao handed Hatton his first defeat at junior welterweight. He claimed the International Boxing Organization belt to match a ring record with a title in a sixth career weight class.

With the hard-hitting Cotto's World Boxing Organization welterweight belt on the line in their Nov. 14 bout to be fought at 145 pounds, Pacquiao could capture an outright record by claiming a title in a seventh weight division.

AP

Boxer Manny Pacquiao, of the Philippines, trains during a media boxing workout in Los Angeles, Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009.

"If I win it's boxing history—seven titles in seven different weight divisions," Pacquiao said. "I would be so proud—being a Filipino who captured titles in seven weight divisions."

### A singing boxer

Pacquiao secured his place among boxing's all-time greats, adding Hatton's junior welterweight crown to past world titles at lightweight, super featherweight, junior featherweight, featherweight and flyweight.

Pacquiao's prowess in the ring has made him a hero in his homeland, and his victories over De La Hoya and Hatton have raised his profile in the United States.

This week, he appeared on US television's "Jimmy Kimmel Live" program, impressing with his singing performance.

It wasn't such a big departure for a man who has appeared on television and in film in the Philippines, where he is also a sought-after product pitchman and a budding politician who plans to run for a seat in the nation's Congress in next year's elections.

### 'He transcends boxing'

Pacquiao also took some time out last month to devote himself to humanitarian work in the wake of a devastating typhoon in his homeland.

It's the kind of gesture that has earned the devotion of his compatriots and is now garnering attention and accolades elsewhere.

"This kid is something that now transcends boxing," said promoter Bob Arum.

## *Cotto's weight still a mystery*

**HOLLYWOOD** (Cebu Daily News)—It was already humid inside the Pound4Pound gym in South La Cienega in Los Angeles and yet organizers of a media sneak peak decided to amp the temperature up a beat by firing up a heater.

Even then, Miguel Cotto did not feel the heat. Not until a journalist hollered from somewhere out in the back row: "Miguel, what's your weight now?"

The Puerto Rican's gaze turned ice-cold and skimmed past the heads of reporters gathered for his media workout, fixing itself on nothing in particular.

The WBO welterweight champion did not answer. His conditioning coach, Phil Landman, sounded evasive. His much maligned trainer, Joe Santiago, shrugged off the question.

"It doesn't matter," Santiago said via an interpreter as his ward prepared to launch into a 90-minute workout to show boxing journalists just how far he has gone in preparation for his bout against Filipino ring icon Manny Pacquiao on November 14, when he will stake his WBO welterweight reign at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"Manny dominated at 130 (pounds) and he's coming up to our division," the 32-year-old trainer added. "There is no one as strong as Miguel Cotto in the welterweight ranks."

Freddie Roach, the Pacman trainer who belittled Santiago by saying that cutman Joe Chavez was the only qualified guy in Cotto's corner, said he has already cooked up a remedy if the reigning Puerto Rican champion turns weight into a key issue of the bout.

"If he's too heavy, we won't fight," Roach said yesterday at the Wild Card gym. The champion trainer had earlier said if Cotto goes more than two pounds overweight than the 145-lb catch weight penciled into the fight contract, Team Pacquiao will call off the fight.

And even if Cotto stays within the maximum tolerable excess weight, Roach won't simply accept the cash-rich penalty that goes with Cotto coming in at 147.

"He's going to have to at least make an effort to lose weight," said Roach.

Landman, was twice asked about Cotto's weight but danced around the questions. "We haven't checked the weight yet," Landman told journalists. "We have a schedule every week and we're on scheduled at this point in camp."

Journalists who watched as a shirtless Cotto apply heating oil all over his ripped body believed he was over 150 yet, some even guessing 152.

Although Roach reminded everyone about the safety clauses protecting Pacquiao from fighting a much-bigger fighter, he didn't seem bothered by Cotto's imposing physique when a reporter showed him pictures from the Puerto Rican's media show.

"He has many tattoos," Roach said, smiling. "He likes tattoos and we're going to put more tattoos with punches on his face."

# Jalosjos seeking absolute pardon

By DONA PAZZIBUGAN
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Former lawmaker Romeo Jalosjos has asked President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to grant him an absolute pardon to allow him to again run for public office 12 years after he was convicted of raping an 11-year-old girl.

Although convicted of child rape by the Makati Regional Trial Court in December 1997 and sentenced to two life terms, the former representative of Zamboanga del Norte managed to seek and win reelection in 1998 and 2001 even while behind bars.

He was only dropped from the rolls of the House of Representatives when the Supreme Court affirmed his guilt in 2002.

In June 2007, Ms Arroyo commuted Jalosjos' sentence to 16 years, three months and three days. This, along with so-called good conduct time allowance, allowed him to walk free for good despite having served only 12 years.

A check with the Board of Pardons and Parole (BPP) Thursday showed that the child rapist applied for an absolute pardon on Sept. 30, or two months before the Dec. 1 deadline for the filing of certificates of candidacy for the May 2010 national elections. (The original deadline was Nov. 30.)

It is deemed that an absolute pardon from the President would restore Jalosjos' political rights including his right of suffrage (the right to vote and be voted upon), which he lost when the Supreme Court affirmed his conviction.

### Under evaluation

The Office of the President "endorsed" or transmitted Jalosjos' application to the BPP on Oct. 22 for evaluation and recommendation as to his eligibility for pardon.

The application officially landed on the BPP desk on Oct. 30.

When reached by phone, BPP Administrator Ismael Heradura denied rumors that Malacañang had granted Jalosjos absolute pardon.

Heradura also said Malacañang had no favorable or unfavorable comment on Jalosjos' application.

"It is under evaluation and further study by the board," he said.

An agency under the Department of Justice, the BPP serves as a recommendatory body to the President in granting executive clemency or pardon to prisoners other than those entitled to parole.

It is within the President's power to grant a prisoner absolute pardon without seeking the opinion of the BPP, as what she did when she pardoned ousted President and plunder convict Joseph Estrada, explained a BPP official who asked not to be named for lack of authorization to speak publicly on the matter.

# 'Arroyo will not win even in barangay polls'

**MANILA, Philippines**—Staunch critics of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday offered an unsolicited advice to her allies to stop pushing her to run for Congress, saying she will not even win in a barangay election.

"Why push her to run as Vice President or congressional representative in the second district of Pampanga, if she cannot even win the barangay chairmanship in La Vista, Quezon City or in any given barangay in Lubao, Pampanga," militant fisherfolk alliance Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) said in a statement.

Quezon Representative Danilo Suarez, one of the President's allies, had broached the idea that Arroyo could run as vice president and running mate of administration candidate Gilbert Teodoro in the May 2010 election.

The congressman said this would be a good idea to ensure the continuity of economic reforms that Arroyo started since she assumed the presidency in 2001.

Talks are also circulating that Arroyo is planning to run for the second congressional district of Pampanga, a post currently held by her eldest son, Pampanga Representative Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo.

But Pamalakaya national chair Fernando Hicap the President can be likened to a "dead man walking" as far as her political career is concerned.

Citing the October 2-8 survey conducted by Ibon, an independent research group, Hicap said only 17 percent of President Arroyo's town mates in Pampanga are in favor of her plans to run for the second district of the province. ***(INQUIRER.net)***

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# 'Midnight sale' of RP's Fujimi property opposed

By VERONICA UY
INQUIRER.NET

**MANILA, Philippines**—Protests over the "midnight sale" of the Philippine property in Fujimi are mounting as Filipinos and Japanese alike say the Philippine government should keep it and "preserve the shared cultural and historical rights of Filipino and Japanese people."

After the Philippine Department of Finance issued an invitation to bid on the property, Filipinos in Japan—in solidarity with Japanese organizations and individuals—have been holding a series of mass actions against the planned sale of the property, which has been serving as the official residence of Philippine ambassadors to Japan.

Aside from a picket and a press conference in front of Fujimi property, members of the Save Fujimi Property International Network also launched signature campaigns in train stations around Tokyo, Saitama, Nagoya, Kyoto, and Osaka, said Cesar Santoyo, Network coordinator, in an e-mail.

"The invitation to bid to develop the Fujimi property issued by the Department of Finance is highly suspect given the coming presidential elections in May 2010," the statement said.

"The Arroyo government whose term will end in seven months has been implicated in various high-profile corruption cases," it added, expressing concern over the real intent behind the move to commercialize the Fujimi ambassadorial residence.

The protesters are worried that the property from the Tokugawa era which the Philippine government bought in 1944 and which is located in one of the most upscale areas in Tokyo will be torn down to give way to a planned 21-story building.

They demand that any major decision related to this historic Philippine-owned property "be done with full public hearing, both in the Philippines and Japan, backed up by thorough studies, and with utmost transparency."

The group met with Senator Alan Peter Cayetano, who is in Japan, to ask his help regarding the property. In response, the senator said that a midnight sale of Philippine property is prohibited; he vowed to investigate the possible irregularities that attended the decision to sell the property once session in Congress resumes on November 9.

Yuko Takei, also a member of the Save Fujimi Network, warned the Arroyo administration, as well as the bidders, of the high political, legal, and constitutional costs of their actions.

# OFW overstaying in Saudi jail to be sent home—DFA

By VERONICA UY
INQUIRER.NET

**MANILA, Philippines**—Overseas Filipino worker Jose Jonathan Botor Bigas, who should have been sent home after serving his sentence of one year imprisonment and 250 lashes in August 2008, is set to be repatriated, the Philippine embassy in Riyadh said.

Bigas was working as a driver when he was arrested with his Filipino passenger, who unknown to him was carrying illegal drugs.

The embassy "is now working on [his] repatriation," the Department of Foreign Affairs said in a statement, which came out following a plea from Bigas's wife and former labor undersecretary Susan Ople.

According to the DFA statement, the embassy is "making available funds" for Bigas's repatriation. "The embassy has requested the DFA to disburse funds for Bigas's repatriation for humanitarian consideration."

When word on Bigas's plight broke out, Lito Soriano of LBS E-recruitment Solutions, offered to shoulder the air fare. But with this new development from the Philippine embassy in Riyadh, Bigas's wife chose to wait for government action.

"As a former OFW in Saudi, I can imagine what it's like to be in his shoes, to be associated with a criminal, in a country that has zero tolerance for crime. I can imagine how hard it is for him and his family. That's why as part of [my company's] corporate social responsibility, I volunteered to shoulder his air fare," he said. Asked how much the air fare costs, Soriano said about $600 to $650.

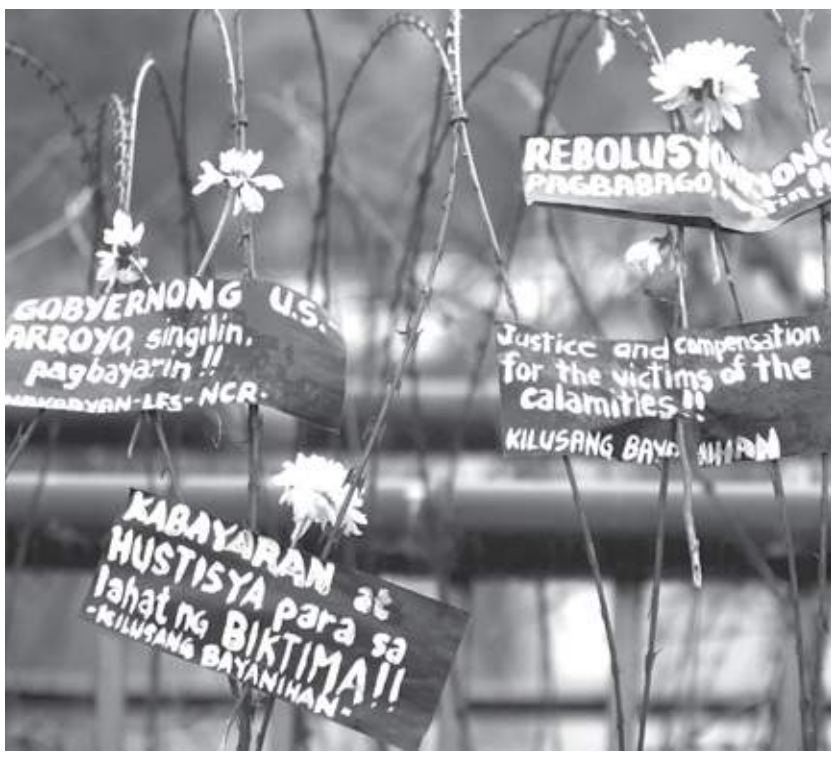
"He should have been home last Christmas. Another Christmas is fast approaching and he should not suffer more than he already has," Soriano said.

Embassy officials explained that Bigas was scheduled to be repatriated last month. But "administrative procedures" between the Saudi court and the Governor's Office got in the way, keeping Bigas incarcerated at the Dammam Reformatory Jail.

"Embassy officials asked concerned Saudi authorities to inquire into this matter," the DFA said.

Soriano suggested that to avoid cases, the government should conduct a complete inventory of Filipinos in jails around the world. "There should be tracking and monitoring of these cases," he said.

After Bigas is reunited with his family and has recuperated, and if he is willing to work abroad again, Soriano said he would like to help. "After all, he is a qualified OFW. He has passed all the tests to be a professional driver in Saudi. If there is no hindrance for him to work abroad again, I would help him."




**BLAME GAME** AP

Flowers with slogans are placed on a barb wired fence as activists stage a rally to mourn for the victims of recent typhoons, at the foot of the historic Mendiola bridge, just outside the Malacanang presidential palace in Manila, Philippines, on Thursday Nov. 5, 2009. The group is blaming the government of Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo for it's alleged neglect in rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations during the storms which hundreds dead and thousands homeless in metropolitan Manila.

## One killed, three others hurt in Cotabato ambush

**KIDAPAWAN CITY**—One person was killed while three others were wounded when some 20 armed men fired on two vehicles cruising the national highway here for Cotabato City on Thursday evening.

Inspector Elias Dandan, Pikit police chief, identified the lone fatality as Naima Adilaoc, a resident of Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao. Wounded were Musrib Zacarac, Salem Sali and Juhiri Sabarat, all residents of Cotabato City.

The wounded were now being treated at the Cotabato Regional and Medical Center in Cotabato City.

Dandan said the victims were aboard a Mitsubishi Montero and Nissan Frontier when ambushed in Barangay Batulawan around 10 p.m.

Dandan said the two vehicles came from Davao City.

"An in-depth investigation is being conducted by police investigators to identify the affiliation and the motive of the suspects," he said. ***(Inquirer Mindanao)***

## Former vice mayor shot, wife killed in Cebu

**CEBU CITY**—Two unidentified men shot and injured a former town vice mayor and killed his wife, Wednesday night, in Barangay (village) Mantalongon, Barili, 65 km south of Cebu City.

Gina Ponsica, 45, was declared dead on arrival at the South General Hospital in Naga City, Cebu, with a gunshot wound in the chest, while her husband, former Barili Vice Mayor Luisito Ponsica, 46, was shot in the abdomen and still in critical condition as of Thursday, the police said.

SPO2 Zalde Orillo of the Barili police said two men wearing masks reportedly shot the victims just as the wife got out of their car and was about to open the gate to their house past 8 p.m.

Orillo said they were looking at robbery as a possible motive for the attack. He, however, did not say if cash or any valuables were taken from the victims.

The couple, he said, has been engaged in copra trading. ***(Inquirer Visayas)***

## TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR MONEY

### Acts of God and other insurance riders you need to know

*Editor's Note: This is part of Take Charge of Your Money, a partnership between INQUIRER.net and Citibank to help readers handle their personal finances well.*

**Question: My friend's car was submerged in flood due to the recent typhoon Ondoy. She filed a claim with her insurance company but found out that her policy did not include coverage for "acts of God." I think it's unfair for insurance companies not to cover damages brought about by the flood. People have already suffered much and they need all the help possible. What can be done about this?—Donna**

**Answer:** Many car owners have been affected by floods due to typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng. Vehicles have been submerged in flood water and mud, and some were even carried away by the current of rushing water.

Days and weeks after the flood, car owners flocked to service centers to have their vehicles repaired. As with your friend, many people who had comprehensive motor insurance also contacted their insurance companies to file for a claim.

But as your friend realized, unless the insurance policy has an "acts of God" rider, the insurance company is not liable to pay for damages caused by natural disasters such as flood. It will not pay for damages since it is not part of the insurance contract entered into between the insured and the insurer (insurance company).

What does "acts of God" mean? "Acts of God" are natural disasters that cannot be brought about by man. Examples are flood, typhoon, earthquake, volcanic eruption, tornado, and landslide, among others. When a person wants to be covered for damages that may arise from acts of God, he has to request the insurer to add this rider to the policy and pay for the corresponding added premium. This is because the standard comprehensive insurance does not include a rider for acts of God. (A rider is an additional condition made part of the standard insurance policy.)

Although the insurance company no doubt would like to help people in the same boat as your friend, it cannot do so because the contract does not allow coverage for acts of God. There is nothing that can be done. Upon renewal, though, your friend may request for the acts of God rider.

There are other insurance riders worth looking into:

1. Strike, Riot and Civil Commotion—Some insurance policies will include coverage for damage to property caused by these events.

2. Roadside assistance and towing coverage—If you have this rider, you may just call your insurer if your car breaks down, and it will arrange for a tow truck to come and bring your car to an accredited service center.

3. Accidental Death Benefit—Should the insured die as a result of an accident while in the insured's car, an amount will be given to the beneficiary or heirs. This benefit may be extended to the insured's authorized driver. Some comprehensive auto insurance policies add this benefit at no extra cost to the insured.

Car owners need to read the fine print closely when availing of comprehensive auto insurance. Usually there is a deductible clause which provides that damages up to a certain amount (example, P4,000) will be paid for by the insured. Another provision would be the depreciation clause where the amount of settlement shall be the cost of brand new part less the share of the insured on the cost of replacement computed based on a depreciation schedule. This means that if total damages amount to P20,000, the first P4,000 will be paid by the insured, and only P16,000 will be paid by the insurance company. There may also be a repair clause where if the vehicle is more than 2 years old at the time of the claim, repairs will no longer be undertaken by a dealer (CASA) repair shop.

The recent typhoons have underscored the importance of getting comprehensive motor insurance with an acts of God rider. Prior to this, motorists just usually avail of the mandatory third party liability (TPL) insurance, thinking that the high cost of premium for comprehensive motor insurance is not worth it. However, when disaster strikes, or when the owner gets into an accident, or when the car is carnapped, that is when the car owner realizes he should have availed of comprehensive motor insurance. Otherwise, he will have to bear the full cost of damages.

Insurance coverage should not be thought of only for cars. Evaluate your current home insurance and see if it is enough. If it is not, or if you don't have one at all, by all means, get covered, include a rider for acts of God, and have peace of mind.

*INQUIRER.net and Citibank invite readers to ask questions regarding financial matters. Send your questions to personal_finance@inquirer.net or comment through our personal finance blog called MoneySmarts. Readers are solely responsible for their own investment decisions and should thus conduct their own research and due diligence and obtain professional advice. INQUIRER.net will not be liable for any loss or damage caused by a reader's reliance on information obtained from our web site.*

# Maharlika – PinoyStyle

## Kris' wish list for Cory film

By MARINEL CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Sharon Cuneta as Cory Aquino—if Ate Vi's 2010 schedule gets too hectic. Aga Muhlach as Ninoy. These actors, Kris Aquino believes, will be perfect for the planned biopic about her parents.

At a press conference on Tuesday for 555 Tuna, which she endorses, Kris announced that Star Cinema (of her home studio, ABS-CBN) is negotiating with a US-based firm for a co-production deal. She and her four siblings would like a woman to direct the movie, Kris added. Her top three picks: Olivia Lamasan, Laurice Guillen, Marilou Diaz-Abaya.

ABS-CBN senior vice president Malou Santos earlier said the network was eyeing Batangas governor Vilma Santos for the role of the adult Cory; Piolo Pascual, the young Ninoy.

"I can't think of anyone but Ate Vi to play mom from the time dad was assassinated, up till her death," said Kris. But if Vilma's time would be compromised by the 2010 elections, Kris would like Sharon Cuneta to do it, especially because "you have to picture the [characer] addressing the US Congress."

Why not do it herself? Kris replied: "I'm not anything like mom. She was soft-spoken… hindi ko kaya. I'm not that good an actress."

Picking the actor for the adult Ninoy is also tough, Kris told Inquirer.

Kris Aquino

"The [period covered] is from dad's incarceration at 39, up to his assassination at 50. Kailangan magaling talaga—and Aga is one of the most talented actors of his generation."

She added: "My sisters had fun picking the actors who might portray us. Ate Ballsy likes Jodi (Sta. Maria); Pinky wants Angelica Panganiban. Noy is okay with John Lloyd (Cruz). We're still thinking who will play Viel, but Bianca Gonzalez is okay. Ako, si Kim Chiu." (She later changed her mind and named Anne Curtis).

"Everything will be up to ABS-CBN, of course," Kris said. "I don't know when production will start. But if it's a film about my parents, it has to be of epic proportions."

# Belo, 2 others face criminal raps over botched butt job

By TETCH TORRES
INQUIRER.NET

**MANILA, Philippines**—The National Bureau of Investigation on Thursday filed four criminal cases against cosmetic surgeon Vicki Belo and two other doctors for the alleged botched butt enhancement procedures on a 40-year-old businesswoman.

Charges of (fraud, reckless imprudence resulting in injury, and violations of the Consumer Act and the Revenue Code were filed against Belo, and fellow physicians Rolando Cayetano and Francis Decangchon before the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office.

This comes as the alleged victim, Josefina Norcio, said she was considering filing a more severe case of frustrated homicide against the three after laboratory examinations made by the NBI showed that the hydrogel used in the cosmetic procedures on Norcio contains acrolein—considered as a severe pulmonary irritant and lachrymatory agent that was used as a chemical weapon during World War I.

Cosmetic surgeon Vicki Belo.

"I'm really mad on learning the laboratory report, which shows there's poison in the hydrogel that they used in the procedure," said Norcio, owner of a production company sending entertainers abroad. "I think they really want me to die."

Norcio, hoping to have similar round buttocks of actress Rosanna Roces, underwent butt augmentation in 2003 and 2005 at Belo's clinic. The procedures cost her around P250,000.

But years later, she began to experience pain, she couldn't move her lower body, and her buttocks were inflamed. Her condition worsened as she experienced difficulty in breathing and her blood pressure became erratic.

Subsequent medical checkups showed her buttocks were full of pus, a condition linked to implanted hydrogel.

The NBI investigation showed Belo, Cayetano and Decangchon are not surgeons—Decangchon is a gynecologist while Belo and Cayetano are general practitioners. At the same time, it said the three have not undergone the trainings required by the Philippine Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons.

The Belo Medical Clinic meanwhile is also facing a complaint for violation of the National Internal Revenue Code.

Norcio's counsel, Trixie Angeles, said Belo's lawyer Adel Tamano had admitted that Belo's had performed around 600 hydrogel procedures.

"If such procedure like what has been done to Ms Norcio costs P100,000, with the 600 similar procedures done, there is under reporting of income," she said.

## OUT OF THE CLOSET

# Simply Sam Milby

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—It's hard to believe, but actor-singer Sam Milby describes himself as a "simple" dresser:

"I'm into plain, no-frills stuff. Most of the things in my closet are either black or white."

He built a spacious walk-in closet on the second floor of his home, adjacent to his spiffy bathroom.

Like the toiletries in the washroom, the clothes in the closet are neatly arranged—jackets and long-sleeved tops in one section; shirts, caps and jeans in another.

Although he's an avowed Bench man, he shops for imported brands prior to concert tours abroad.

### Shirts

"I'm not a big spender," Sam swears. "When abroad, I shop in outlet stores to save money."

He's partial to the Japanese brand, H&M. "The nearest branch is in Hong Kong. Clothes in H&M are inexpensive and unique. You're assured that no one in Manila will have the same shirt as yours."

He has a new favorite store. "Jack & Jones shirts fit me well. But they're only available in Europe."

But Bench suits his lifestyle "perfectly," he says. "When I'm free, I usually go to the mall myself, to get the right sizes."

His Royal Hotness Sam Milby

### Shoes

Though he's a former figure skater, Sam doesn't have ice-skating boots in his closet. Instead, there are racks of sneakers and a few pairs of leather shoes.

He has white shoes by Dolce & Gabbana and a gray-brown-white pair by Zara.

Sam's a size 10. "I go for different brands. I have Converse and Kickers. I still have the first pair of shoes given to me by (sponsor) GBX when I joined show biz four years ago. It's quite worn … literally dying on me."

A favorite is his Gucci pair, a gift from Princess Sarah of Qatar. "I think it's one-of-a-kind. The princess, who has Filipinos in her staff, used to watch my old (ABS-CBN) soap, 'Maging Sino Ka Man.'"

### Jeans

For cruising on his motorbike, a Yamaha YZF-R6 2008, he wears Bench denims.

"Jeans should be a bit loose and the denim should be thick, to protect your legs from possible spills."

When picking pants, jeans or slacks, the main factors he considers are style, cut and color. These days he goes for black jeans.

### Headgear

For his head, he's partial to caps, mostly Bench. He also has a blue Ben Sherman and a brown Banana Republic.

But a current obsession is motorcycle helmets. At this time of Living Stars' visit, he has two: A white Caberg and a black Shark.

"I plan to buy another. I've been advised to get one in a lighter color, to make sure I'm visible even at night—especially since I always wear dark clothes."

Caberg and Shark are his brands of choice because "they have an inner lining that protects the skin from bacteria."

### Books, DVDS

Aside from his collection of inspirational books, like "Wild at Heart" and "Boy Meets Girl," Sam has built an extensive library of movies on DVD—all original.

"I have roughly 200 titles. I'm a regular at Astro Vision. I don't buy pirated discs. I watch movies almost every day—any kind, even cartoons."

The titles on his DVD shelf include such eclectic picks as "The Incredibles," "Mean Girls," "Almost Famous" and "50 First Dates."

### Toys, gadgets

Sam's a kid at heart. Beside his bed sits a guitar-playing stuffed toy. "It was a gift from Chicago-based fans. It's so cute."

He's tech-savvy and is updated on the latest applications for his iPhone. He also relies heavily on his computer, which he uses to store everything, from photos to music (by Jordin Sparks, MYMP, among others).

"I can hook up everything myself."

He also has traditional board games at home, like Pictionary and Trivial Pursuit. "My family and I used to play Pictionary in the US."

Few people know that he's a whiz at Rubik's Cube and Rubik's Snake puzzles.

### Computer, cameras

He uses the computer to master piano-playing.

Sam explains: "I attach the Axiom 61 to the computer. It's not a keyboard; it's a controller. Funny, but I am teaching myself how to play the piano. I don't know anything about chord progression, though … I just listen closely."

He's a self-taught photographer, too.

"I have a fish-eye lens film camera when I wish to go old school, but I also have a Canon 30D when I want to go digital."

### Drums, guitars

In a corner of his computer/entertainment room is his drum set.

Yes, he is a self-taught drummer as well. Unlike his piano-playing, however, he is more confident about his drum skills.

Again, he's a self-taught (and self-assured) guitarist.

"I have three guitars: Two acoustic, one electric. They're all Paul Reed Smith—good brand, but a little pricey."

Naturally, he loves strumming while playing the music video game Guitar Hero, and is addicted to other PlayStation titles like Assassin's Creed and Metal Gear.

"I've played as long as four hours in one go."

# Maharlika – Opinyon

## Half-full

I remember the Oscars awards held early this year. As a result of the recession, the affair scaled down the glam and glitter. In lieu of a regular emcee, the awards had Hugh Jackman singing—and dancing—the introductions. In lieu of film clips showing the nominees for best actor, actress, director, and movie, the awards had previous winners addressing the nominees and lavishing them with praise. In lieu of big productions, the awards had quieter moments, like Queen Latifah singing "I'll Be Seeing You" in memory of those who just passed away.

The result was something more touching, more thoughtful, more memorable. Challenged to do with much less, the people who made it did much more.

I remembered this after I read an interesting item from Reuter last week. Market research firm Synovate polled 11,400 people worldwide and found that a fourth of them were actually glad the world economy slumped because it made them realize their priorities in life. Malaysians led the group. "The credit crunch has been felt," said Synovate, "and it has reinforced the family values of Malaysians, helping them to appreciate what they have rather than continually strive for more."

I belong to that one-fourth, though my reasons have little to do with family values. I too am glad the slump has happened because it forces us to do several things.

First off, it forces us to be creative, the way the Oscars were so this year. Of course, for most of us who grovel in poverty, the experience is not new. The poor have been "creative" for a long time in dealing with want. Look at the habal-habal in the provinces, a motorcycle straddled by wooden planks that manages to ferry a dozen people at one go. That is one hell of a balancing act. That is one hell of desperate creativity.

As for those of us in Metro Manila, maybe the slump can force us to improve public transport. The trains are doing a magnificent job. If they hadn't come along, Edsa and Taft would now be just be one huge parking lot. The sudden proliferation of motorcycles and bicycles in Metro Manila by itself already testifies to the hard times. If we can just provide better public transport, I wouldn't mind that the private car goes. But then that's probably more a matter of will than of creativity.

**There's The Rub**

**By CONRADO DE QUIROS**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

I leave others to pitch in. On a broader plane, I'm glad the slump has happened because it forces us to try and get only as much as we need and not as much as we want. You wish you could say that only countries like America are gripped by consumerism and wastefulness, but that's not true. We are too.

If you've been to the US, you'd be astonished by the vastness of the wants, which afflicts Filipinos especially. Not surprisingly because the material abundance is also blithe advertisement of success. It confers status. Which is useful when friends and relations drop by, or when one visits the home country, armed with plenitude. If you've been there, you'd be astonished by huge refrigerators bursting at the seams, and the amount of food that goes to waste.

But that's true as well of us, arguably less spectacularly but with the alarming difference that it is the product of a spectacular divide between rich and poor. I'm always amazed by the comment, particularly from balikbayans, that the Philippines isn't really wallowing in want—"hindi naman naghihirap"—because of the frenetic buying in malls and the proliferation of new cars. In fact, it is a sign only of horrendous inequality, a tiny few being able to satisfy wants and a teeming many unable to meet needs. Those malls, for those who have the eyes to see it—and being inured to pain makes for blindness—coexist with makeshift dwelling places along sidewalks, which have sprouted of late, prey to the next howling of the wind, rising of the water, and descent of the men with badges, in rising order of predation.

In fact, I find nothing more incongruous, if not obscene, than the sight of slimming centers advertising themselves aggressively (though not unpleasantly with scantily clad wonders of creation endorsing them) and that of emaciated street children begging for alms, advertising themselves as victims of the recent calamities. Enough to make you rethink your sense of deprivation at not having the most recent 55" LED TV.

On a still broader plane, I'm glad the slump has happened because it forces us to wonder about the things that matter in life. It's not just a question of settling for less, or even doing more with less, it's also a question of doing better with other things. If the slump makes us a little less material girls or boys, if it makes us a little more spiritual travelers or seekers, then it's worth its weight in, well, gold.

Call it sour grapes, but not being able to reach the grapes is not a bad position from which to ponder things. And the grapes may truly be sour. As consumerist values, they often are. It gets so that having becomes more important than what is gotten. You just have to have the latest Mac, the fastest car, the biggest television set. Pretty soon you get tired of them and want more. The satisfaction is fleeting, the need permanent.

Who knows? Maybe in this hour of need, we may discover books. They're fairly cheap (you can always beg, steal, or borrow, not least from libraries) and they satisfy more deeply than the latest "9 in 1" from Quiapo. Maybe in this hour of need, we may discover the joys of laughter and conversation. They're free, and they lessen high blood pressure more effectively than medicine. Maybe in this hour of need, we may discover those in direr need than we. It's a gift of sight, which has a way of descending upon us as a people, like tongues on fire, during disasters.

Maybe in this hour of want, we may discover abundance.

## EDITORIAL

## One more week?

The sight of so many people queuing up before the offices of the Commission on Elections and failing to register is, at one and the same time, moving and pathetic. It tells us that there is no shortage of citizens who want to do the right thing; it shows us that next year's elections have caught the imagination of the young, and that the future of the democratic project looks robust.

It also reminds us that we are our own worst enemies, that we continue to live in a culture that rewards those who persist in doing things at the last minute.

In some areas, the last-minute applicants' failure to register ended in heated words, with insults and threats directed at election officials. It was, as the young themselves like to say these days, "intense."

That intensity is part of the reason why there is a clamor for the Commission to extend the registration period, which ended on All Saints' weekend. Other reasons are more naive; others less noble. But, at the risk of being misperceived as encouraging the art of procrastination, we would like to suggest that the Comelec reconsider the issue and—if there is still time—extend the registration period, even if only for a week, or a day or two.

It bears emphasizing: The Comelec has not been remiss in its duty of promoting the election franchise. It launched a continuing registration system for new voters or transferees last December. In the home stretch of the registration campaign, the Comelec added four more hours to its working day. It extended its reach by conducting registration drives in barangay halls and in malls.

It is also important to stress that the Comelec has a very tight schedule to follow, to allow it to conduct the country's first nationwide automated elections.

In the last week of registration, Comelec spokesman James Jimenez explained in clear terms exactly why the registration deadline must be met. "We need to close the list [of voters] by the end of November for the allocation of precincts. [Unless that is done,] we cannot determine the number of ballots and other supplies [to be shipped to all precincts] so we need to close on a certain day."

After the Comelec folded its tents and packed its benches, Chairman Jose Melo gave another reason why the deadline could no longer be extended. "No extension because we still have to allot time for the disqualification [process]. For one reason or another, we have to decide on the nuisance candidates within a period of one month only—from December to January."

We understand these and similar limitations on the election agency's freedom of movement. And yet, we make bold to ask: Is there really no more time to accommodate hundreds of thousands of would-be voters? We understand the case against extension. But considering the fundamental nature of what's at stake, it seems incumbent on all of us to offer a solution. Perhaps we can call on the Comelec, at the very least, to review the timetable and then discuss, in public, the consequences of one or two or more additional days of registration.

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## 'Recuerdos de patay'

There is a wonderful sign on the main entrance to the Manila North Cemetery (Cementerio del Norte) that reads, "Welcome po kayo dito." This is a shining example of Filipino hospitality that everyone will refuse. I saw this from the corner of my eye, last month because I was anticipating the mouth-watering display of freshly roasted lechon displayed on the roadside across the cemetery. When I first saw the welcome sign to the cemetery, I burst out laughing and gave the polite Filipino reply to the person who posted the greeting, "Mauna po kayo. (You go first!)"

Cementerio del Norte is one of the most fascinating historical spots in Manila, but it is not on the route recommended by the Department of Tourism. It is here that many actors in Philippine history lie: Manuel Roxas, Francis Burton Harrison, Gregoria de Jesus Nakpil (widow of Andres Bonifacio, Lakambini of the Katipunan), Pancho Villa (boxer), Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo (19th century painter and contemporary of Rizal and Juan Luna), Fernando Poe Sr. and Jr. (actors), Amado V. Hernandez and Honorata "Atang" de la Rama (husband and wife, both National Artists), and many more. There is a mausoleum dedicated to the veterans of the Philippine Revolution, a plot of land dedicated to firemen, another for Jews, and yet another for the first American teachers who arrived at the turn of the 20th century aboard the USS Thomas and are thus known collectively as the "Thomasites."

**Looking Back**

**By AMBETH OCAMPO**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Strolling in a cemetery may not fit everyone's idea of recreation or education, but the Cementerio del Norte is well worth the effort. I have to visit their administrative office one day to get a listing of its famous occupants and verify the rumor that if you look at the plan of the cemetery, its outline forms a skeleton.

Since historians work with and in the past, they often encounter the dead. I have spent a lot of time reading about the dead and dying. I have even marveled at the pre-war magazine Renacimiento Filipino (Philippine Renaissance or Re-birth) whose reporters were the earliest ambulance chasers. Instead of covering the parties of "Manila's 400" some of them specialized in wakes and burials. If they arrived on time, they could even take pictures of the famous before and after death. If their camera was quick, they could take a series of photographs as the person expired or breathed their last. Renacimiento Filipino is a magazine that draws the reader in with a mix of curiosity, fear, and revulsion. I often recommend Renacimiento Filipino to students seeking suggestions for term paper topics, but there are no takers.

During the last few auctions organized by the Bayanihan Collectors Club, I have acquired postcards and photographs of wakes, burials, and hearses from the late 19th to the mid 20th centuries. One of my recent finds were "before and after" pictures of an unidentified politician in a sickbed and last seen alive posing for a souvenir photograph with a smiling Sergio Osmeña. There is a succession of pictures of his corpse alone on the hospital bed, inside a coffin and lying in state.

Juan Luna was photographed on a bier in Hong Kong shortly before he was cremated in 1899. Unlike Luna, who wore a dark suit in death, Emilio Jacinto was garbed in his military uniform complete with his rifle. Unlike Luna whose bier was ornamented with wreaths, Jacinto's background had a file of mourners, mostly female and the one with the most sorrowful look was carrying Jacinto's child in her womb.

Then there is Paciano Rizal, eldest brother of the National Hero and general of the Revolution, who refused to be photographed in life. When he was in a coffin, unable to resist, photographs were taken of the wilted hero who by then resembled Nosferatu the Vampire.

These morbid photographs are known as recuerdos de patay (souvenirs of death).

Recuerdos de patay did not go out of style after the 19th century when people would have their relatives, especially children, painted for posterity. The National Museum has a fine portrait of a "sleeping" child by Simon Flores that is one of the best of this genre.

Early in the 20th century, painters were commissioned to paint portraits of people as they lay dead. The real challenge to the painter's skill and artistry in re-presentation was how to change the pallid complexion of a corpse and make it lifelike. Then the painter had to "open" the eyes of the deceased and make the portrait appear as if it were painted from life.

There is something about death that unsettles the living, but it is one of the inevitable facts of life. We will all die some day, we just don't know when so it is best to be prepared.

A photograph in the papers the other day documented a pink coffin set up in a Makati cemetery where people were taking souvenir snapshots with their cell phones to overcome the fear of death. An enterprising undertaker on Quezon Boulevard does funeral arrangements online. But the ultimate in cash-and-carry shopping can be found in the US wholesaler Costco where coffins can be ordered near the baggage counters.

Benjamin Franklin was right when he said that the only sure things in life are death and taxes.

# Maharlika – Samu't Sari

**EDUCATION MONTH** HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is flanked by Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, left, and Board of Education chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita, right, as he signed a proclamation declaring November Education Month and Nov. 25 Education Day in a ceremony on Capital Hill. This year's theme is "Education Opens the Gate to Endless Learning."

**DHS FORUM** HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A big crowd of foreign workers and other community members listen to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service officials during public forum on USCIS' interim final rule on the CNMI transitional worker program at the American Memorial Park Friday night. Federalization of CNMI immigration starts on Nov. 28 under a law that also gave the Commonwealth its first non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress.

**ENERGY FAIR** HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Members of the Pua Hinano of the Te Kanahau Nui Dance School of Saipan perform at the 6th Annual Energy Fair at the Garapan Fishing Base Saturday last week, despite heavy rains that flooded some areas. The six-hour fair, sponsored by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Residential Energy Assistance Challenge and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, brought together over 10 vendors engaged in alternative power sources, energy savings technology, refrigeration and air conditioning, among other things.

**TRICK OR TREAT**

Kids in Halloween costumes pose with staff of PSS Head Start last Oct. 31 at the latter's booth in the American Memorial Park.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Eucon International School students pose after trick or treating establishment at Paseo de Marianas last Oct. 31.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**FREE CHECKUPS** HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Commonwealth Health Center personnel administer free blood sugar and blood pressure checkups after the proclamation signing held Nov. 3 at the Garapan Fishing Base. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed three proclamations declaring November "National Diabetes Prevention and Awareness Month," National Lung Cancer Awareness Month and Great Marianas Smoke Out," and "National Home Care and Hospice Month."

**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT**

Belated happy birthday to Thelma Torres, from all your handsome boys Rin, baby girl Chong, and Dad. We love you and we hope you enjoy another wonderful year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ninia, who will be celebrating her birthday tomorrow, Nov. 8. Greetings from your friends Garrie and Paula.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Leo Antonio Ben Valeros passed the National Council Licensure Exam for registered nurses which was held last Oct. 20, 2009 on Saipan. He is a graduate of Northern Marianas College Saipan. Congratulations from your Mama Zenaida Valeros, Ninang Auring, Ninong Bert, cousin Zerina and your relatives in Manila, Philippines. Keep up the good work!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# YoungStyle

# At all-girls tournament, they're queens of the chessboard

By MOIRA E. MCLAUGHLIN
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

**WASHINGTON**—It was a sunny fall day, the kind of day your mom insists you spend outside, running around, laughing and making noise. But for 30 girls, in grades one to eight, it was a day for concentration, strategy and competition.

The Washington-area kids competed in the U.S. Chess Center's first all-girls chess tournament last month. The day included four rounds of games. Each girl had 30 minutes per game to make her moves.

The girls sat quietly, stared at the boards and scribbled down their moves to study later. Naomi Miller, a sixth-grader at Springfield Estates Elementary School in Springfield, Va., won two matches, drew one (meaning it was a tie) and lost one.

"There really are so many new things to learn," she said. "I don't think it matters if I've lost or not. I like thinking back and seeing if I could have made another move."

This was Naomi's second chess tournament and her first all-girls matchup. This one, she said, "was way more casual." When a boy opponent says to her at the beginning of a match, "Are you ready to play?" Naomi feels as though what he is really saying is, "Are you ready to lose?"

This kind of attitude is in part why the U.S. Chess Center decided to host an all-girls event. At most youth chess tournaments, according to Chris Kim, the tournament director, only about 5 percent of players are girls. That means, out of 100 players, only five of them are girls. That's a lot of boys.

"Most girls feel intimidated," Kim said, as his daughters, Madeline and Charlotte Kim, battled it out over the chess board. Girls may pick up the game in elementary school, but as they get older, they stop playing because of peer pressure. "My daughters' main complaint was, 'How come we always have to play boys?'"

Pallavi Bhave, a fifth-grader at Westminster School in Annandale, Va., plays on her school chess team, which has seven girls and 36 boys. "Most of my other friends do chorus," she said, "I think chess is better because you actually think and it helps you concentrate."

Joie Wang, a sixth-grader from Greenbriar West Elementary School in Fairfax, Va., tied with Madeline for first place in the senior division (grades five to eight). Sarah Slate, a fourth-grader at Hunters Woods Elementary School in Reston, Va., and Mahati Malladi, a fourth-grader at Greenbriar West, tied for first in the junior division (grades one to four).

Joie has competed in dozens of tournaments in the three years she has been playing. When asked why she plays chess, she said simply, "I like how I beat people."

THE WASHINGTON POST

The U.S. Chess Center decided to host the all-girls event to help contestants feel less intimidated than when playing against a boy opponent. At most youth chess tournaments, according to Chris Kim, the tournament director, only about five percent of players are girls. That means, out of 100 players, only five of them are girls. Here, Contestant Allison Lu, front right, shakes hands with her fellow opponent.

Girls from the District, Maryland and Virginia competed in the U.S. Chess Center's first all-girls chess tournament. The tournament included 30 girls and had four rounds of games. Here, Kat McGrail, front left, raises her hand to answer a question before play begins.

THE WASHINGTON POST

## CHESS BASICS

### Facts about chess:

- Each player has 16 pieces: eight pawns, two knights, two bishops, two rooks, one queen and one king. All the pieces are set up the same way every match in two rows in front of each player. Each piece moves a specific way. For example the rook (which looks like a castle) can moveforward, back and sideways any number of spaces, but not diagonally.
- Along the left and right sides of the board are numbers and along the top and bottom are letters. This is how players note their moves.
- To win, a player moves a piece to the space where her opponent's king is. Checkmate is when a king is about to be taken. ***(The Washington Post)***

# The Redskins need to focus on the future

By FRED BOWEN
*Special to* The Washington Post

*Bowen is the author of sports novels for kids. His two newest books, "*Touchdown Trouble*" and "*Soccer Team Upset*," were published in August.*

I give the Washington Redskins football team a report card about this time every year. This season's report card is a real stinker. Here are the marks:

Team owner (Daniel Snyder): F
Head coach (Jim Zorn): D
Offense: F
Defense: C-plus
Special teams: C-minus

I hope you never get a report card like that! Of course, if you get a bad report card, don't waste any time crying about it. After all, report cards, whether for kids or football teams, describe what has already happened. No one can change the past.

Instead you should think about what you can do in the future to be a better student. If you are not doing well in school, maybe you should ask the teacher for extra help or spend more time studying and doing your homework instead of watching TV and playing video games.

As for the Redskins, they shouldn't worry about their 2-5 record or even how they are going to do the rest of this season. (I think they will be lucky to win two more games.)The team has to concentrate on what it can do to get back on the winning track. Here are my suggestions:

-- Be honest. For years, the Redskins have fooled themselves and their fans into thinking they were just a player or two away from being a championship team. Wrong! The Redskins have major problems with their offensive line and their receivers. They are an old team that does not have any decent reserve players to replace injured starters. The Redskins will need lots of good players, not just one or two, before they get better.

■ Be patient. It took years for the Redskins to get this bad. It may take years before they are good again. After all, if you are a D student, you can't study hard for one night and expect to get all A's. A few years ago, the Washington Capitals were as bad as the Redskins. The Caps got rid of their overpaid, overrated players and drafted talented younger players. They were terrible for a couple of years. But now they are a quality team, and it looks as if they'll stay that way for years to come. The Redskins should follow the Capitals' example.

■ Be consistent. The Redskins should decide to build their team by drafting and developing young players. And then they should stick to the plan. That means they can't be tempted to sign high-priced free agents such as Albert Haynesworth, DeAngelo Hall or a dozen other players the team has signed in the past few years hoping for a quick fix.

If the Redskins can do all that—be honest, patient and consistent—they may get a better report card someday.

# Do frogs cause warts?

By HOWARD BENNETT
*Special to* The Washington Post

*Bennett is a Washington pediatrician and author of health-related books for kids.*

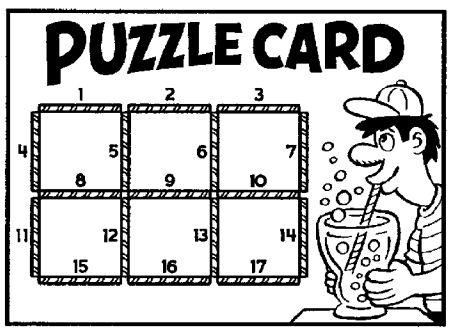
When I was a kid, my mom told me not to touch frogs because I would get warts. Although I did most of the thingsmy mom told me, touching frogs was way too tempting. As a result, I must have handled thousands of the amphibians by my 10th birthday. And even though I did not get warts from frogs, I did get a couple of goose eggs on my head and a cut on my knee because I fell as I chased my slippery prey.

So if frogs don't cause warts, what does? The answer is viruses. Yep, warts are infections caused by different types of viruses. If you look closely at a wart, you will usually see tiny black dots within the top layer of skin. Those dots are not dirt, but tiny blood vessels that clotted as the virus invaded your body. In fact, the wart itself is not the virus. Instead, it's an area of calloused skin the virus creates. Think of it as the virus' home.

One of the most interesting things about wart viruses is that the body doesn't recognize the virus. As a result, the body makes no attempt to kill the invader, and the wart can hang around on your poor, defenseless fingers or toes for months or years. In most people, however, the immune system will finally snap to attention and kill the virus, thereby eliminating the wart.

So what should you do if you have a wart? There are plenty of nonprescription remedies to treat warts. Most of them work by exposing the wart to a mild acid that eats through the skin and kills the virus. Others work by freezing the skin, which also kills the virus. Some people go to dermatologists (skin doctors), who have stronger medicines that can kill the virus more quickly.

## PUZZLE CARD



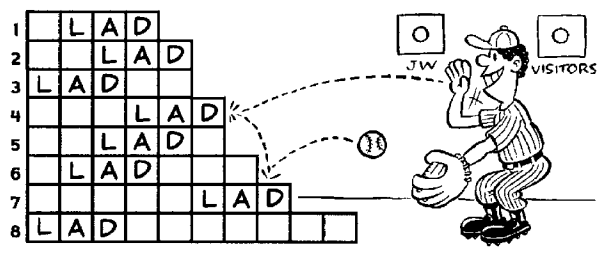

**A BUBBLY BAFFLER!** Your problem is to remove six straws from the 17 shown here and have two squares left.

Answer: If you remove straws 5, 8, 9, 12, 14 and 17, you will be left with one large square and one small square. Did you "fizzle out" trying to solve this one?

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

**NINE 'LADS' MAKE A TEAM!**




Illustrated by David Coulson

This lad is waiting for his pals so they can play baseball. The grid above has room for eight words that contain "LAD." Try to field his team in less than three minutes. Hints: THIS LAD ...

1. ...is all dressed up.
2. ...comes from the garden
3. ...will serve the soup.
4. ...is very romantic.
5. ...can make you sick.
6. ...can make you happy.
7. ...was in the Civil War.
8. ...goes with strawberries for dessert.

Answers: 1. Clad. 2. Salad. 3. Ladle. 4. Ballad. 5. Malady. 6. Gladden. 7. Ironclad. 8. Ladyfinger.

**ODD MAN OUT!** To the right is a list of five words. Can you figure out which word doesn't belong on the list?

Answer: Depot. The other words all contain boys' names. (2. Lyle. 3. Earl. 4. Alan. 5. Saul.)

**A THANKSGIVING WORD FEAST!** See if you can pass around the four five-letter words needed on the right to fill in our word square. There is a helping of definitions for each. All words must read the same across and down.

1. Holiday centerpiece (given).
2. Where everyone lives.
3. They call it debating.
4. Worthless closet items.
5. It's also called stealing.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 F | 2 E | 3 A | 4 S | 5 T |
| 2 E | | | | |
| 3 A | | | | |
| 4 S | | | | |
| 5 T | | | | |

Answers: 1. Feast. 2. Earth. 3. Argue. 4. Stuff. 5. Theft.

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# Playing nice isn't this cat's nature

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I have two cats. One we've had about three years, and the other is a stray we recently adopted that was emaciated and had an infected foot. "Carlo," our older cat, is neutered, and the new cat is a (probably unspayed) female. She is terrified of Carlo. Once they got into a fight, which made her even more terrified. We have kept her separated from Carlo until she is built up and her infected foot heals. We would like to reintroduce them to each other under our supervision, but don't know exactly how to do it. Any advice?—Mary F. via e-mail**

DEAR MARY: For the moment, allow the new cat to heal. Then, take her to the vet to find out if she is spayed, and if not, get that done. Having her spayed probably won't guarantee peace in the house, but it will protect her from pregnancy if she gets outside.

Getting the pair to get along will be difficult. It's not impossible, but there's a good chance that the best relationship they'll have is a mutual respect of each other's territory. Keep Carlo and the new cat separated when you're not home. When you are at home, have them interact in "neutral territory" (away from food dishes and cat boxes). Keep a shaker can of coins at hand. If their hissing rises in pitch or a paw swats out—or all-out war begins—shake the can hard near them.

Gradually increase the amount of time that the cats spend together in neutral territory. Keep your voice calm but firm during these interactions. While they get used to each other, keep their food and litter boxes apart. If they improve relations, you can try gradually moving their food dishes into one common area.

■ ■ ■

*Send your tips, questions and comments to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or e-mail them to pawscorner@hotmail.com.*

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# Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ Of particular interest in these troubled economic times, it was British humor columnist Katharine Elizabeth Whitehorn who made the following sage observation: "The easiest way for your children to learn about money is for you not to have any."

■ The fish known as the electric ray can produce a current strong enough to kill an adult human.

■ If you are the parent of a young daughter, you are probably all too familiar with the Japanese export Hello Kitty. A new item has recently been added to the Hello Kitty line, but it is decidedly not for kids: The Super Hello Kitty Jewel doll is on the market for $150,000. To celebrate the 35th anniversary of the character, Sanrio (the maker of Hello Kitty), Swarovski (known for high-end crystals) and Japanese jewelry maker I.K. have created a 4-inch-tall Hello Kitty of platinum, and studded the doll with 1,939 pieces of white topaz, 403 pink sapphires, eyes of black spinel and a nose of citrine. The whole thing is topped off with a one-carat diamond on its hair ribbon.

■ The onion is actually a member of the lily family.

■ The next time you have a little bit of food stuck in your teeth, consider this: More Americans choke on toothpicks than on any other object.

■ In La Paz, Bolivia, you can find one of the most unusual prisons in the world. At San Pedro Prison, inmates have to purchase their cells. Those who are well off financially can buy private cells with bathrooms, television and kitchens. Those who are less lucky must share tiny rooms.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "We have in fact, two kinds of morality, side by side: one which we preach, but do not practice, and another which we practice, but seldom preach."—Bertrand Russell

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## MAGIC MAZE ● CAPTAIN —

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| K | H | E | R | B | Y | W | T | R | O | C | L | J | G | E |
| B | Y | W | U | T | R | D | R | A | C | I | P | P | N | K |
| I | H | T | I | M | S | N | H | O | J | R | P | G | D | B |
| Z | X | V | S | Q | O | U | O | M | M | E | P | K | I | G |
| E | C | A | Y | D | W | K | D | E | U | M | A | S | Q | P |
| N | L | J | H | H | D | K | A | N | G | A | R | O | O | F |
| E | C | A | T | H | G | I | N | D | I | M | T | Y | B | X |
| V | U | S | Q | P | O | I | K | N | M | F | N | K | A | J |
| H | F | E | R | E | W | O | L | B | N | R | O | H | H | C |
| B | Z | Y | X | K | R | I | K | B | L | E | V | R | A | M |

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ahab | Hook | Kidd | Of industry |
| America | Hornblower | Marvel | Picard |
| Bligh | John Smith | Midnight | Von Trapp |
| Cook | Kangaroo | Nemo | |

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## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

**DIFFICULTY: ★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | – | | x | | 21 |
| ÷ | | + | | + | |
| | x | | + | | 15 |
| x | | x | | x | |
| | x | | – | | 28 |
| 24 | | 25 | | 20 | |

1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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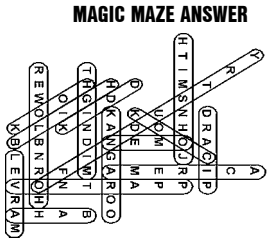
**MAGIC MAZE ANSWER**



**GO FIGURE ANSWER**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | x | 5 | – | 2 | 28 |
| x | | x | | x | |
| 2 | x | 4 | + | 7 | 15 |
| ÷ | | + | | + | |
| 8 | – | 1 | x | 3 | 21 |

# Kids help decorate Thanksgiving table

Balancing work, family and holidays, not to mention keeping on budget, is the big challenge for parents this time of year. With a thousand and one things to do and never enough time to accomplish everything, it's especially hard to set aside special time with our kids.

Here's a solution that works! Incorporate kids into your everyday activities and let them help create a homemade holiday with you. These two projects are whimsical, fun and easy to do together as you get ready for Thanksgiving Day.

### NAPKIN PORTRAITS

Purchase inexpensive, solid-colored fabric napkins or repurpose an old set you already own. Kids will enjoy personalizing them by drawing a portrait of each person sitting at the Thanksgiving dinner table. Use fabric paints in squeeze bottles or fabric markers, and draw the portrait freehand on one quadrant of each napkin. (An adult may heat-set the drawings with an iron when the paint is dry.)

When it's time to set the table, place one on each plate to serve as a unique place card. As relatives and guests arrive, they'll smile when they find their place at the table.

Wash them up and save them to use year after year as a family tradition. In 10 years, Aunt Thelma may say she never looked so young!

TIP: Instead of fabric napkins, use nice paper dinner napkins for single-use portrait napkins. Kids may draw the portraits with nontoxic permanent markers instead of fabric paint.

### FALL BLOOMS

Arrange chrysanthemums in a hollowed-out mini-pumpkin, acorn squash or small gourd. First, place a chunk of damp florist foam trimmed to fit the hollowed-out portion. The kids may poke the stems of flowers into the foam, one at a time, until the arrangement is complete. Make several, and place them around the house or cluster them in the middle of the Thanksgiving table for a centerpiece.

"The grandkids are coming!" tip: Visit the public library and search for books about Native American life. Look for collections of Native American stories. When you are together with the grandkids on Thanksgiving Day, talk about Native American traditions and read aloud a legend to honor Native Americans and their contributions to culture. If you have Native American ancestry, share stories you would like them to remember.

■ ■ ■

*Donna Erickson's award-winning television series "Donna's Day" airs on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.*

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# Life & Style

AP

In this publicity image released by ABC, Diane Sawyer, left, interviews singer Rihanna about her relationship with ex-boyfriend Chris Brown in New York.

## Rihanna: Going back to Brown after beating 'wrong'

Rihanna said Thursday that she regrets going back to ex-boyfriend Chris Brown after he left her bruised and battered during a February assault, warning other women facing domestic violence to not let themselves become blinded by love.

"It's completely normal to go back. You start lying to yourself," the 21-year-old singer said on "Good Morning America" in her first TV interview following the beating. "I'll say that to any young girl who is going through domestic violence: 'Don't react off of love.'"

Brown, 20, was arrested Feb. 8, hours after he was accused of beating Rihanna after the couple attended a pre-Grammy Awards party. He later pleaded guilty to felony assault and a judge ordered Brown and Rihanna to stay away from each other.

In the interview, Rihanna, who is no longer with Brown, said she was ashamed to go back to him after the attack. "That's embarrassing—that's the type of person I fell in love with. So far in love, so unconditional, that I went back," she said. "That's not what I want to teach people."

The attack occurred in Los Angeles' Hancock Park neighborhood as Brown drove a rented sports car. A Los Angeles police detective described a brutal attack in a search warrant affidavit filed in the case, stating Brown hit, choked and bit Rihanna and tried at one point to push her from the car. A photo of her bruised face was circulated on the Internet. In an interview with Glamour magazine, posted online Tuesday, she said about the leaked photo, "I felt like people were making it into a fun topic on the Internet, and it's my life."

In her interview with "Good Morning America," Rihanna said she soon realized that, as a role model to young women, her returning to Brown sent the wrong message. "When I realized that my selfish decision for love could result in some young girl getting killed, I could not be easy with that part. I couldn't be held responsible for telling them, 'Go back,'" she said.

"I didn't realize how much of an impact I had on these girls' lives until that happened," she added. "It was a wake-up call for me, big time, especially when I took myself out of the situation."

Brown's career suffered after his arrest, with sponsors dropping him and radio stations refusing to play his music. Both he and Rihanna had to cancel several high-profile appearances, including planned performances at the Grammy Awards the day of the attack.

Brown has apologized to fans and has said he has repeatedly apologized to Rihanna for the attack.

In August, Brown said he was still in shock about his actions. He also revealed that he called his mother, who was a domestic violence victim, the night of the attack and broke down.

ABC will air more chunks of the interview on Friday's "Good Morning America" and then Friday evening on the news magazine "20/20." Brown also will recount his perspective in an interview to air Friday on MTV.

Rihanna's interview coincides with the debut of her new single, "Russian Roulette," from her upcoming album, "Rated R." It's her first CD since 2007's multiplatinum "Good Girl Gone Bad."

In Thursday's interview, Rihanna said, "I am strong. This happened to me. I didn't cause this. I didn't do it. This can happen to me and it can happen to anybody." ***(AP)***

## *Rihanna, Jay-Z to perform at American Music Awards*

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Rihanna, Eminem, Lady Gaga, Green Day and Carrie Underwood will be among the diverse roster of performers planning to take the stage at the American Music Awards in Los Angeles, show producers said Thursday.

Producer Larry Klein said Jay-Z, Shakira, Mary J. Blige, Adam Lambert, Kelly Clarkson and Alicia Keys are also slated to perform on the 37th annual show, to be held at the Nokia Theatre on Nov. 22 and broadcast live on ABC.

He said that three more performers are yet to be announced, bringing the total to 18.

"Some of them are going back—I don't want to say old-school—but some incredible, wonderful, terrific productions that I haven't seen in a long time," Klein said.

Even though performers will play their hits, "what they do on this show you've never seen before and you'll never see again," he said. "Everything is personalized for the AMAs."

The American Music Awards honor pop/rock, country, rap/hip-hop, soul/R&B, alternative, adult contemporary, Latin and contemporary inspirational artists. Fans can vote for their favorites online in 20 categories.

## Comedian Mo'Nique gets serious in 'Precious'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Mo'Nique likes to laugh. A lot.

So the comedian knew she would be taking on a tough mental challenge when she decided to play the role of Mary Jones—the vicious, abusive mother in the critically acclaimed film "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire."

She was up to the task for most of the movie. But she admits that there was one scene that required so much hate that she almost fell apart.

"There was one time that I got scared because I didn't think that my mind or heart could go to that place," the 40-year-old said.

But she pulled it off with a portrayal so searing, so devastating, that she's being touted as a possible Oscar nominee.

The dark urban drama, which debuted at January's Sundance Film Festival, won both the top jury prize and the award as the audience's favorite film. It opens in U.S. cinemas on Friday.

The film follows Clareece "Precious" Jones, an overweight, illiterate and abused Harlem teen who is pregnant with her second child. Precious, played by newcomer Gabourey "Gabby" Sidibe, is constantly discouraged by her mother, played by Mo'Nique.

The Lee Daniels-directed film—which also features Mariah Carey, Paula Patton and Lenny Kravitz—is being backed by Oprah Winfrey and Tyler Perry, who serve as executive producers.

AP

In this film publicity image released by Lionsgate films, Mo'Nique is shown in a scene from "Precious."

In a recent interview, Mo'Nique talked about her role in the film, her recent weight loss and putting her "diva" ways behind her.

**The Associated Press: You're known for making people laugh and Mary Jones is almost the complete opposite. How was it for you to play that role?**

**Mo'Nique:** Rewarding. It was excited. It was challenging because I love to laugh, baby, I love to laugh. But it was appreciated because I don't know of any other director that would have given two fat, black women the opportunity to do what we did... The world needs to see it because guess what, Mary Jones exists, baby. So does Precious.

**AP: How would you describe the film?**

**Mo'Nique:** It is about a forgotten people. It is about obesity. It's about molestation. It's about cruelty. It's about HIV/AIDS. But it's about triumph—and that's the beauty of the movie. People say, "How do you walk away saying it's beautiful?" When you watch it and you understand, through it all, somebody can pick themselves up and keep it moving, that's beautiful... So I was proud to be a part of something that is very honest, and Lee Daniels, baby, he's going to give it to you. He's going to give it to you raw. No chaser, no lollipop licking, this is it. It's the dirt, it's the grime, it's what we're afraid of.

**AP: Thinking about how Mary treated her own daughter—did that make you hate the very character you were portraying?**

**Mo'Nique:** Reading the book, I disliked what she did. I won't say I disliked her, but I disliked what she did. Getting to that last scene of Mary Jones, I understood her. For as crazy as that sounds, you don't excuse it, but you don't want to judge it. Because it's easy to say that she's a monster, she's cruel, she's mean, but then who took out the time to say, "Well what happened to you, baby?" That's why I say they're the forgotten people.

**AP: Did you leave the character on the set or did you ever take some of the baggage home?**

**Mo'Nique:** I left it right there. I had to. And my husband, who is just amazing, Sydney, he said, "Don't judge it and don't take it off the set, walk away. When you're done, let it go..." It made me look at us differently. It made me look at mental illness differently. And it made me say, you know what, I could wake up the next day out of my mind, I would want somebody to say, "I give a damn. Come here. Let me get you some help."

**AP: You've always been an advocate for "big girls," but you've dropped a lot of weight recently. What made you decide to slim down?**

**Mo'Nique:** I feel amazing and it's not that I didn't feel amazing at 262, I didn't know that it was a problem. I didn't think it was a problem. I had people saying, "Girl, you look fabulous. Honey, you wearing that, baby" as I'm sitting there eating what I want to eat 'cause I'm fabulous, honey. I'm a star. I'm a sex kitten... Until my husband said that is too much, I want you for a lifetime... It gets you to a place where you get clear and you make a commitment you never thought you could make before. I never considered losing weight. I didn't think there was an issue. I'm like, baby, I'm fine, but now I've made the commitment to do it and (I'm) trying to get to 200 pounds.

**AP: How have you seen yourself grow since your days as a young comedian?**

**Mo'Nique:** There was a time that I thought it was about Mo'Nique and it took my best friends—my husband and two of my best girlfriends from elementary school to sit me down. They said, "We're getting tired of you now..." So I had to learn how to be considerate, to be a better friend. Because when stuff starts getting heightened, you can lose your way, but I'm glad I had the people in my corner to say, "Come here. You asked me for something, but you didn't say please. You trippin.'"

# Winfrey takes gospel singer Winans off her show

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Oprah Winfrey is removing gospel singer BeBe Winans from her show's "karaoke challenge" until charges against him for allegedly pushing his ex-wife to the ground are resolved.

Winans appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" last week and was seen in promos for future appearances. Now he'll be cut out of the segment, said Winfrey spokesman Don Halcombe on Thursday.

Winfrey was criticized by some bloggers this week for including Winans after she had taken a strong stand against domestic violence earlier this year. She did a show on the topic when singer Chris Brown assaulted his then-girlfriend Rihanna.

The daytime TV leader said at the time: "Domestic violence is something that I wouldn't tolerate. Period."

Halcombe would only say that the decision to eliminate Winans was made this week. It was not clear if Winfrey had been aware that Winans was charged with misdemeanor domestic assault in the Feb. 13 incident, where Winans and his ex-wife Debra were allegedly arguing about their children. Winans has a court date set for Jan. 20.

Winans' manager did not immediately return a telephone call for comment.

"Let's just not have a double standard on domestic violence or even accusations of domestic violence," said Joni Reynolds, a woman from the Baltimore area and author of a blog called Ebony Mom Politics.

She had called attention to Winans' participation and wondered if Winfrey had overlooked the charges because the Winans were friends or because there were no photos that had become public as in Rihanna's case.

Reynolds commended Winfrey for deciding to take Winans off the show.

AP

In this April 6, 2009 file photo, Oprah Winfrey arrives at the Chicago 2016 gala dinner for the International Olympic Committee's Evaluation Committee at the Art Institute of Chicago in Chicago.

# 'Golden Girls' star McClanahan has bypass surgery

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Rue McClanahan, who played sexy Southern belle Blanche Devereaux on "The Golden Girls," was recovering Thursday from heart bypass surgery at a New York City hospital.

The surgery took place Wednesday and went "very, very well," said friend and colleague Del Shores. "She's going to be great and up and entertaining us all very shortly."

McClanahan, 75, said in a statement that she regretted missing a tribute to her set for this month at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco.

McClanahan

"Unfortunately, my doctor has laid down the law, and I'm currently in the hospital having some maintenance on the old ticker," she said. "Trust me, I'd much rather be in San Francisco having fun and being adored by all of you."

McClanahan's problem was discovered when she underwent tests before a knee operation, said Shores, who declined to identify the hospital where she was being treated.

In 2008, McClanahan appeared in the Logo comedy "Sordid Lives: The Series," playing the slightly addled, elderly mother of an institutionalized drag queen. Shores wrote and directed the show, which was based on his play and movie.

He was to perform with McClanahan and "Sordid Lives" star Leslie Jordan at the New York club Comix at the end of the month. The trio will reschedule, Shores said, although he and Jordan still plan to perform at the club.

McClanahan had an active career in off-Broadway and regional stages in the 1960s before she was tapped for TV in the 1970s for the key best-friend character on the hit series "Maude."

Her best-known role came in 1985 when she costarred with "Maude" colleague Beatrice Arthur, Betty White and Estelle Getty in "The Golden Girls." The sitcom about four older women living together in Miami was a success that aired until 1992 on NBC.

McClanahan underwent treatment for breast cancer in 1997.

# Tom Hanks, others screen 'Beyond All Boundaries'

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—Actors Tom Hanks, Patricia Clarkson and James Cromwell walked the red carpet Thursday before a private screening of the Hanks-produced war film "Beyond All Boundaries" held at the World War II Museum in New Orleans.

The film, which includes "4-D" elements such as props and shaking seats, opens to the public Friday and will be shown exclusively at the museum's new Victory Theater. The theater is part of the museum's $300 million expansion project that will continue through 2015.

Clarkson and Cromwell were among more than a dozen celebrities who lent their voices to the documentary. Clarkson was the voice of Marguerite Higgins, a New York Herald Tribune correspondent, and Cromwell was the voices of Maj. Gen. Alexander Archer Vandegrift and Fleet Adm. William Halsey.

The film includes vintage images that chronicle WWII—from Pearl Harbor to the Battle of the Bulge—and took five years to make.

"I'm just glad that it's here," Hanks said. "I'm glad that it's part of the bigger museum. I think things like this are natural resources for each city (in which) they exist."

Hanks said the film also captures a moment in the country's history that "is now entering into the era of myth."

He noted that younger generations are far removed from World War II and hopes the film will bridge the gap.

"It was all heroes long ago," he said, but notes that there's still much to learn from history.

"World War II was fought by a bunch of 17-year-olds who were trying to kill each other, now that's not that far away from a lot of things that are going on in the world today," Hanks said. "If this museum and we have done our job well enough, people will come and certainly take note of the past, pay homage to the sacrifice, but at the same time, walk away thinking, 'Well, what would I do if the circumstances were the same?'."

Hanks

Cromwell and Clarkson said they didn't hesitate when asked to be in the film.

"It was an honor to be asked," Clarkson said. "It's an honor to be a part of this. It's a tribute to the people who have made the greatest sacrifice ever."

Cromwell said, "it's good to give back when you're in a position where it makes a difference, so it was my pleasure."

"Beyond All Boundaries" has been a highly anticipated attraction at the museum. Also opening Friday are two other museum additions—a canteen that will showcase musical revues inspired by USO-style productions and a restaurant called The American Sector that will be overseen by chef John Besh.

To mark the occasion, there will be a military flyover, procession of World War II veterans and entertainer Mickey Rooney is scheduled to perform with his band.

The celebration will continue through the weekend with a Victory Stomp block party Saturday and a retrospective honoring the museum's founder, the late Stephen Ambrose, on Sunday.

## Green Day to play at Carson Daly's New Year's Eve

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Green Day already has New Year's Eve plans: They'll be ringing in 2010 with Carson Daly.

The punk-rock trio are slated to perform during "NBC's New Year's Eve with Carson Daly." The show is to air live from Times Square.

Daly says he's "beyond excited" to have the Grammy winners as his guests.

Green Day's latest CD "21st Century Breakdown" has sold over 800,000 copies.

# Teen's lie about his past jeopardizes future with girl

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

**DEAR ABBY**: I am a 16-year-old guy in my sophomore year of high school. I am known as a friendly, outgoing guy who gets along with girls. My problem is, I used to be one of the biggest jerks who ever was. I was involved in fighting and other things I won't go into. But I turned my life around.

I was going out with an amazing girl, "Samantha." She always kept me in line, but was sweet about it. Recently, because I was ashamed of my past, I lied to her. She found out about it and, needless to say, she was very hurt. When I saw how hurt she was, I was sick to my stomach knowing how much pain I had caused such a trusting girl.

I want to make things right, but I don't know where to start. I have talked to her since then, but things aren't the same. Please help.

LOVESICK IN KENNEWICK, WASH.

**DEAR LOVESICK: Apologize again to Samantha for not being completely truthful with her, and explain that you lied because you were ashamed about your past behavior and only wanted someone as special as she is to see you in a good light. Promise never to do it again.**

**If she likes you as much as you like her, she'll give you another chance. But remember, from here on you will have to be honest because if she catches you in another lie, she won't believe another word that comes out of your mouth. Enough said?**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I am blessed with many wonderful friends. We exchange small gifts on birthdays and at Christmas. As much as I appreciate the gifts, I am running out of room in my closets because I have too much stuff. Sometimes the gifts are not to my taste or they don't fit in with my decor.

How long should I keep an item before I donate it to a thrift shop? Is it ungracious to give it away? Am I obligated to display or use something I don't like?

I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. I have tried suggesting that at our ages (50s and 60s) we should cut out the gift-giving, donate the money to charity and celebrate by going out to lunch on our birthdays. It didn't go over very well. They all enjoy the exchange of presents. I am happy to give one, but I really don't need anything more. Thanks for your help.

TOO BLESSED IN SANTA ANA, CALIF.

**DEAR TOO BLESSED: It's not ungracious to give away something you can't use -- in fact, the practice is so common there is a name for it. It's called "regifting." It won't cause hurt feelings as long as you are careful not to give an item back to the person who give it to you.**

**Donating something to a thrift shop is also a practical way to get rid of it, and you can do it anytime you wish. One person's "castoff" can be another's treasure. Everybody wins and a worthwhile charity makes money.**

**Because you are "thinged out" and prefer divesting to accumulating, I recommend you stop "suggesting" and have a frank talk with your friends. Tell them you have everything you need, that their friendship—which you already have—is the most precious gift they could ever give you, and on birthdays from now on you'd much prefer meeting for your celebratory lunch, but please to donate whatever they'd spend on your gift to charity. After that, the ball's in their court.**

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*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

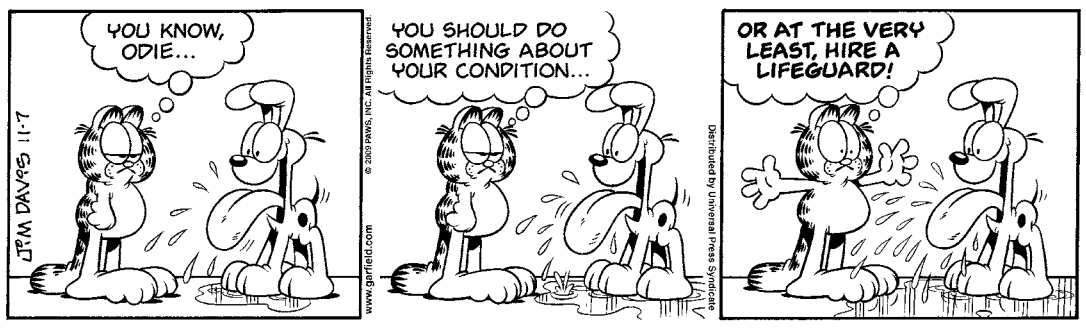
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

MAN ALIVE! CAN YOU BELIEVE WHAT MY TEACHER WROTE ON MY REPORT?
SHE SAYS I OBVIOUSLY DID NO RESEARCH WHATSOEVER ON BATS AND THAT MY SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATION LOOKS LIKE I TRACED THE BATMAN LOGO AND ADDED FANGS!
SHE'S PRETTY PERCEPTIVE.
SHE DIDN'T EVEN GIVE ME CREDIT FOR MY PROFESSIONAL CLEAR PLASTIC BINDER!
WHAT DID YOUR PARENTS HAVE TO SAY?
NOTHING. AND IF YOU'LL GIVE ME A HAND HERE, IT WILL STAY THAT WAY.
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
11-7 WATTERSON

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis


YOU KNOW, ODIE...
YOU SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR CONDITION...
OR AT THE VERY LEAST, HIRE A LIFEGUARD!
JIM DAVIS 11-7
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www.garfield.com
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

POP, DO YOU WORK OUT?
SOMETIMES.
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE EXERCISE?
WELL, I LIKE TO START WITH A LITTLE STRETCH.
AND THEN IT'S TIME FOR A MUCH-NEEDED COOL DOWN AND A REST.
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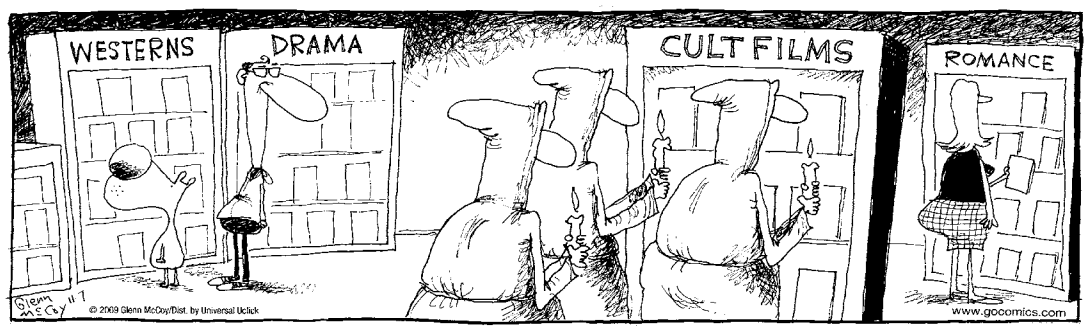
www.gocomics.com
11.7

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy




## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

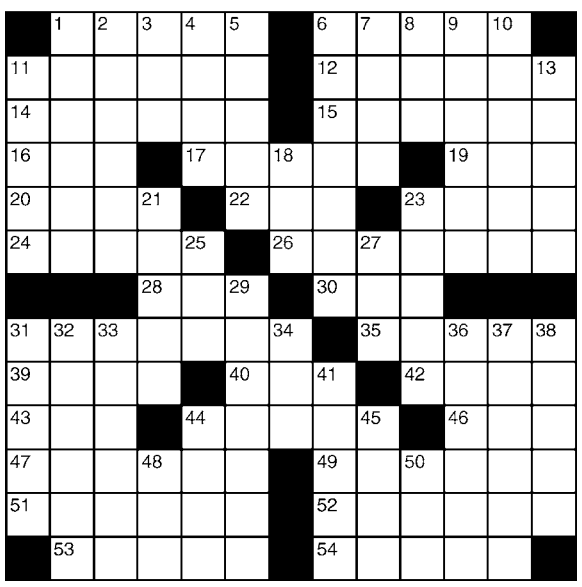
**ACROSS**
1 Hardly Mr. Right
6 Stitched
11 Gitche Gumee area
12 1781 discovery
14 Snarl
15 Bracelet attachment
16 Antiquated
17 Mongol tents
19 Pub order
20 Cat call
22 Payable
23 On in years
24 Bewildered
26 Transcends
28 Curved line
30 Yank
31 Fledgling business
35 "Saturday Night Fever" venue
39 Oodles
40 Civil War fighter
42 Ancient portico
43 Id counterpart
44 Allegation
46 Sort
47 Resort to trickery
49 Spur sound
51 Teetertotter
52 Solo
53 Attracts
54 Loosen a deadbolt

**DOWN**
1 Swiss home
2 Sonata finales
3 Work unit
4 Slithery
5 Pretentious sort
6 Metaphorical meaning
7 Times on a timeline
8 Ashen
9 Mesh, as gears
10 Rendered blunt
11 Leaf pore
13 Burpee wares
18 Wish otherwise
21 Sports
23 Sponsorship
25 Illustrations
27 Cow's chew
29 Kin of the sandpipers
31 Passels
32 Dressed for a frat party?
33 Repentant one
34 Shell game need
36 Mark of shame
37 Apprehend
38 "The Old — Bucket"
41 Jewel
44 Talon
45 "Death in Venice" author
48 Fed. construction overseer
50 Beak

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | O | O | F | S | ■ | I | K | E | ■ | A | G | O |
| I | N | F | R | A | ■ | N | O | G | ■ | L | O | B |
| D | E | F | E | R | ■ | T | A | G | L | I | N | E |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | L | E | A | D | O | N | ■ | E | K | E | S |
| L | E | I | ■ | H | I | T | ■ | S | T | E | R | E |
| I | S | N | T | ■ | J | O | C | K | S | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| S | T | E | R | N | O | ■ | H | I | G | H | U | P |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | O | U | N | C | E | ■ | O | O | Z | E |
| S | P | A | W | N | ■ | A | R | E | ■ | T | I | P |
| T | I | D | E | ■ | S | P | I | N | A | L | ■ | ■ |
| R | E | D | L | I | N | E | ■ | S | U | I | T | E |
| I | C | E | ■ | O | A | R | ■ | U | L | N | A | R |
| P | E | R | ■ | U | P | S | ■ | E | D | E | M | A |

Yesterday's answer 11-7



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Jason and Jeremy London, 37; Todd McKee, 46; Joni Mitchell, 66

**Happy Birthday:** Good things are heading your way. You are going to be in the right place at the right time, so don't miss out because you are afraid to make a move. Changes at home will bring about opportunities to expand an interest you've always wanted to pursue. The time to go after your goals and to open up creatively is now. Your numbers are 5, 13, 16, 22, 28, 31, 46

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Rethink your plans and motives. Make sure that you are being honest with the people counting on you. Emotions will be difficult to control. Make alterations to your personal life before you engage in something new. ✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Don't worry or fret over things you cannot change. Arguments will be a waste of time and will leave you feeling as if you are the one left out. Instead, find out what everyone else is thinking—that will lead to common ground. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Emotional turmoil will lead to problems at work and home. Stop worrying about what's going on and focus on achieving your goals. Discipline and hard work will pave the way to a better mental and emotional place. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): Socialize and get involved in events and activities that are fun and take your mind off your everyday troubles. You can enhance your relationships if you make sincere gestures of concern, followed by some positive help. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Discussions, motivational seminars or getting out of town and changing your surroundings will do you good and help you resolve issues that have been causing you stress. Don't concern yourself with what someone else does; it's what you do that will count in the end. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Get involved in something that will allow you to help others and you will be introduced to a number of people with something to give back to you. An interesting proposal could change your future regarding how you earn your living and the people you associate with. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): If you let someone stifle your plans or confuse you, you will fall short of your goals. Consider what you enjoy and what you are good at and implement these assets into your choices for the future. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You need a creative outlet to stimulate your talent and enhance what you have to offer. Travel, communication and mixing business with pleasure will all contribute. Talks will lead to something concrete. ✪✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't be daunted by someone's choices. If you are willing to face what's coming head on, you will be the one to benefit in the end. Don't hesitate to do what's necessary to stabilize your life and your future. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Combine the old with the new. Consider services that used to thrive and modify them to a trendy and profitable outcome. Your charm will capture someone's attention, leading to an advantageous social and business arrangement. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take a trip—even a short one—that opens your eyes to a new way of living or to surroundings different from your own. It's the change of pace and attitude that will help you discover where you should be heading in the future. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Follow through with your plans and, most of all, do what's in your heart. Pursue the people and things you want with grace, dignity and commitment. The best is yet to come but the changes must be implemented now. ✪✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are intense and follow your own unique path. You are an inspiring and interesting friend and companion.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 7 | | 5 | | 3 | | |
| | | | 6 | | 8 | | | |
| 1 | | 8 | | | | 7 | | 9 |
| | 2 | | | | | | 8 | |
| 7 | | | | 9 | | | | 1 |
| | 3 | | | | | | 9 | |
| 2 | | 5 | | | | 9 | | 6 |
| | | | 2 | | 4 | | | |
| | | 4 | | 1 | | 8 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| 9 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| 7 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
| 2 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 |
| 6 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/06

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**REVERSIBLE PONCHOS** **Solution: 7 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | G | N | I | H | T | O | L | C | F | L | E | E | C | E |
| I | N | N | E | R | E | N | I | L | H | T | G | N | E | L |
| T | O | (T) | (U) | (R) | (N) | O | I | T | C | E | T | O | R | P |
| T | R | G | N | I | R | T | S | W | A | R | D | W | T | M |
| I | T | O | S | T | S | U | J | D | A | O | E | A | O | I |
| N | S | D | T | E | T | M | S | D | O | A | T | T | G | S |
| G | R | S | E | A | I | Y | I | H | T | S | N | E | G | U |
| U | E | T | E | Z | T | T | I | H | E | E | I | R | L | P |
| N | T | E | W | L | I | E | E | N | I | D | R | P | E | P |
| S | S | K | I | O | E | R | E | N | G | I | P | R | L | O |
| W | E | C | N | E | O | V | E | G | G | S | P | O | B | R |
| I | Y | A | D | L | O | V | E | B | N | I | C | O | A | T |
| T | L | J | L | W | N | X | I | E | B | I | S | F | R | C |
| C | O | D | L | O | F | O | W | T | L | U | R | E | U | D |
| H | P | A | C | L | O | S | U | R | E | S | R | F | D | N |

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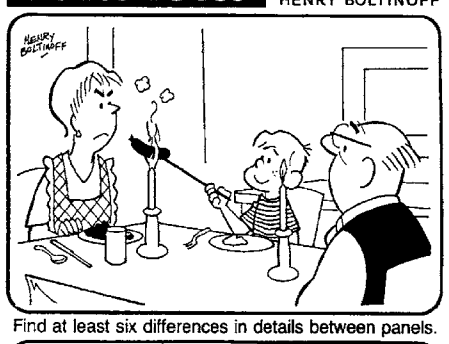
Adjust, Closures, Clothing, Coat, Convenient, Design, Drawstring, Drop, Durable, Fitting, Fleece, Fringe, Hood, Inner, Jacket, Length, Liner, Polyester, Print, Protection, Roll, Rotate, Rubberized, Shed, Sides, Simple, Sleeveless, Snug, Strong, Support, Switch, Ties, Toggle, Traditional, Turn, Twofold, Tying, Waterproof, Weather, Wind, Woven

**Yesterday's Answer: Curtain**

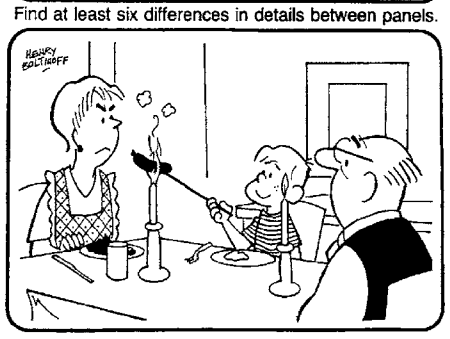
NEW FROM WONDERWORD! The Wonderword 2010 Desk Calendar is now available for pre-order on Amazon.com and Calendars.com. Search: "Wonderword Calendar." Order yours today!

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Apron is different. 2. Spoon is missing. 3. Left candlestick is taller. 4. Picture is moved. 5. Earring is different. 6. Man's nose is larger.

## Wishing Well®

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| S | D | A | Y | N | H | O | Y | C | E | I | U | S |
| 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 5 |
| F | W | A | F | T | E | Y | T | F | F | T | U | Y |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| L | O | I | U | E | O | P | S | N | N | H | E | O |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| G | I | D | O | G | O | F | H | A | A | G | O | U |
| 5 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| T | E | R | N | W | A | I | M | R | O | L | E | A |
| 4 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| S | U | S | N | E | T | R | L | L | S | F | A | I |
| 7 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| L | R | U | S | S | E | I | H | O | M | N | E | T |

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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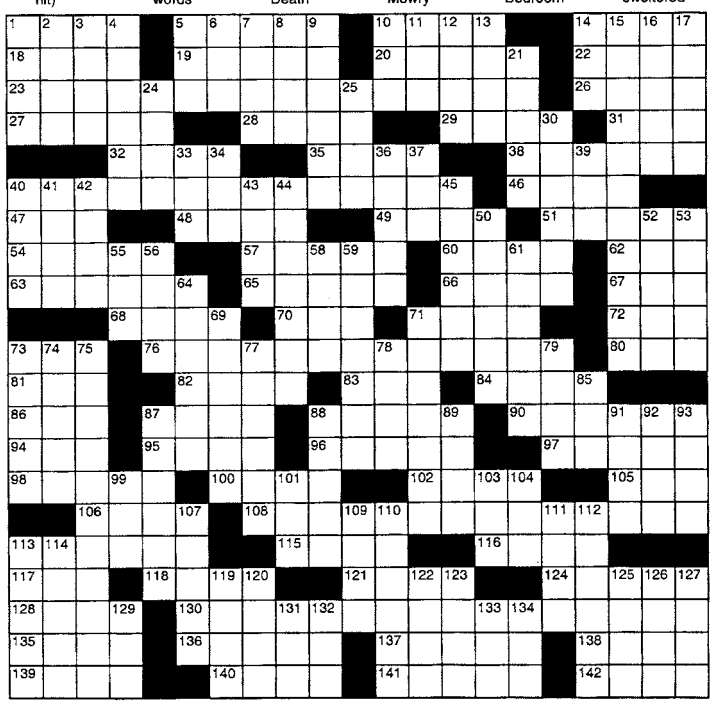
## Super Crossword GENERIC ZOO

**ACROSS**

1 "It Must Be Him" singer
5 Summoned electronically
10 Svelte
14 "— Said" ('61 hit)
18 Gallimaufry
19 Madrid month
20 Famed fabulist
22 Word with history or hygiene
23 Kids' TV show?
26 Move like a mouse
27 Studio sign
28 Bouillabaisse or burgoo
29 Clarinetist Artie
31 Security grp.
32 Tidy
35 Put together
38 Author Willa
40 Marx Brothers film?
46 "— go bragh!"
47 Southern constellation
48 O'Hara homestead
49 Datebook abbr.
51 Corn color
54 Director Zoltan
57 Knot
60 "The — Time" ('65 hit)
62 Cub Scout group
63 Offend
65 Certain heron
66 Prankish
67 Exec's deg.
68 Model Carre
70 Snitch
71 Dog star?
72 Eyebrow shape
73 Norm
76 "The Wind in the Willows" setting?
80 Boxing expert Fleischer
81 Saperstein or Lincoln
82 La — Tar Pits
83 Squirrel's snack
84 Astronaut Armstrong
86 Apex
87 Cassandra or Merlin
88 Continental currency
90 Wheel features
94 Absent
95 Bloomsbury buggy
96 Labor leader George
97 Chef Jeff
98 City on the Mohawk
100 Compact —
102 Not — many words
105 Milne creature
106 Canal feature
108 Poe short story?
113 Shortstop Reese
115 Sphere starter
116 Connecticut campus
117 Where to find an incus
118 Moss or Mulgrew
121 "Eugene Onegin" character
124 Striped stone
128 Urban problem
130 "Joy to the World" rockers?
135 Caesar's cohort
136 It makes candy dandy
137 Future officer
138 Algerian port
139 Black
140 Actor McClure
141 Declare
142 "Peter Pan" pooch

**DOWN**

1 James of "Murder by Death"
2 One of the Osmonds
3 Philbin's co-host
4 Pasta type
5 JFK Library architect
6 Magnuson or Dvorak
7 Tiffany treasures
8 Part of Q.E.D.
9 Sounds of music
10 Kind of cross
11 Sophisticated
12 Egyptian deity
13 Japheth's father
14 TV's "The — Squad"
15 Comic book hero?
16 One of the Osmonds
17 Hitching post?
21 Locale
24 Locale
25 Long-necked bird
30 Cordiality
33 Pangolin's morsel
34 TV-listing abbr.
36 Worked in Vegas
37 Kreskin's letters
39 Carrere or Mowry
40 Scottish storyteller
41 Blood component
42 "Invaders from —" ('53 film)
43 Press
44 Malaga quaff
45 '84 Daryl Hannah film
50 Kilt material
52 African equine
53 Pass into law
55 Couple
56 Utah resort
58 Fine steed
59 Cortege
61 Libra's symbol
64 Lumberjack's cry
69 Peanut butter or jelly
71 38 Across heroine
73 Couturier Jean
74 "It's — time!"
75 Elton John hit?
77 Loner
78 Atmosphere
79 They're often glossed over
85 Actor Herbert
87 Sissy of "In the Bedroom"
88 Host
89 Out of — (incompatible)
91 Soprano Te Kanawa
92 007's school
93 Be a farrier
99 Bull's beloved
101 "Quiet!"
103 Overhead item?
104 "Birds — feather . . ."
107 Colleague of Shelley
109 Coll. hotshot
110 Whitman's bloomers
111 Panache
112 Multitude
113 "GoodFellas" Oscar winner
114 De Valera of Ireland
119 Heavy blow
120 As a result
122 Aerial annoyance
123 "O patria mia" singer
125 Taj town
126 Comparative word
127 Sicilian volcano
129 Merry
131 — Claire, WI
132 Unit of work
133 Lepidopterist's need
134 When Satie sweltered



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## Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: What is the literary device called alliteration?
2. MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MMDLVII?
3. TELEVISION: What comic book superhero is either mentioned or represented in many episodes of the "Seinfeld" sitcom series?
4. INVENTIONS: Who is credited with inventing the electric razor?
5. MOVIES: What was Forrest Gump's home state?
6. MUSIC: What rock group performed the song "Pride (In the Name of Love)"?
7. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the element magnesium?
8. GEOGRAPHY: What modern European country was called Lusitania in Roman times?
9. LANGUAGE: In Latin names for the days of the week, what planet is represented by Wednesday?
10. ANIMAL WORLD: Which insect can sting only once?

**Answers**

1. Use of a repeated consonant, usually at the beginning of a word
2. 2,557
3. Superman
4. Jacob Schick
5. Alabama
6. U2
7. Mg
8. Portugal
9. Mercury (Dies Mercurii)
10. Honeybee

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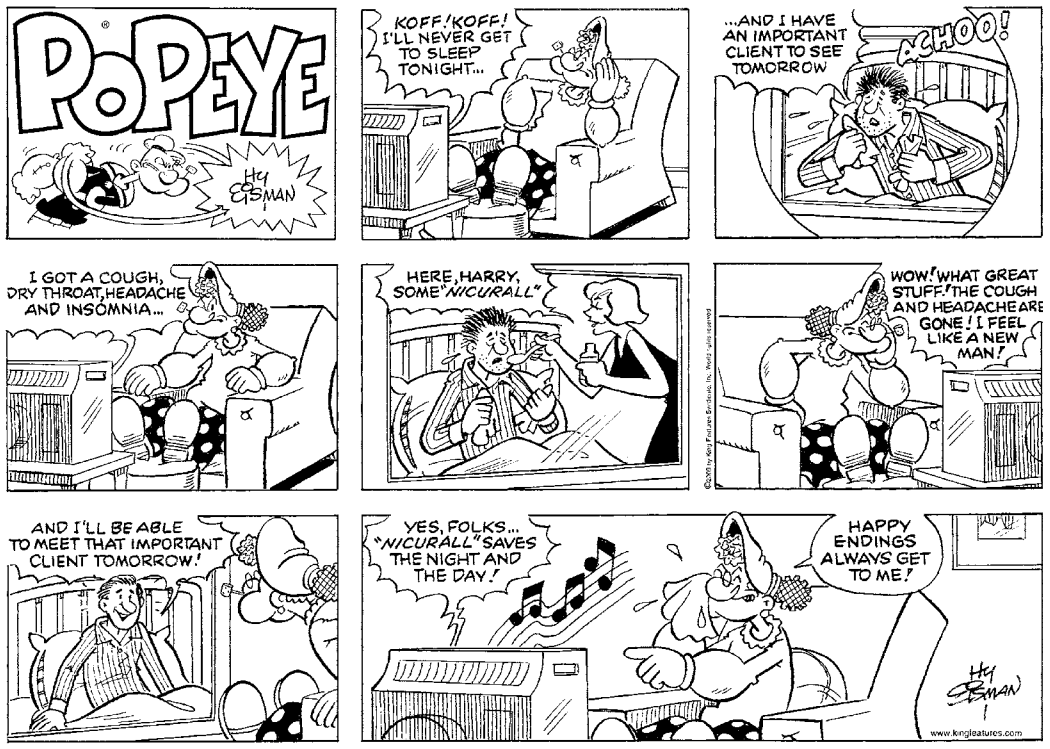
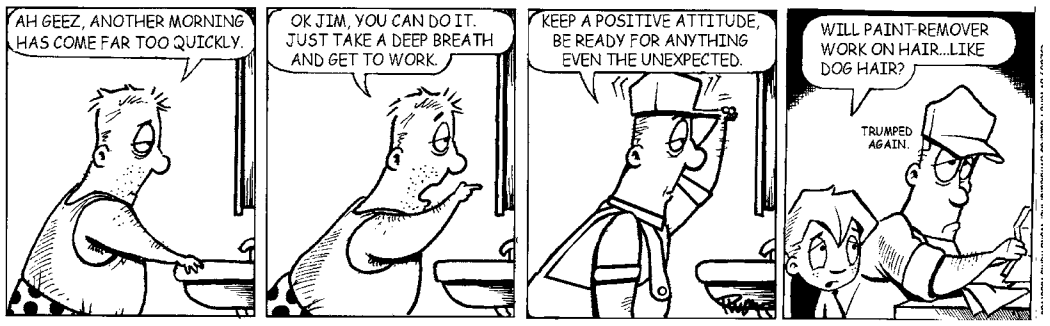
### Saturday's Answers

## POPEYE

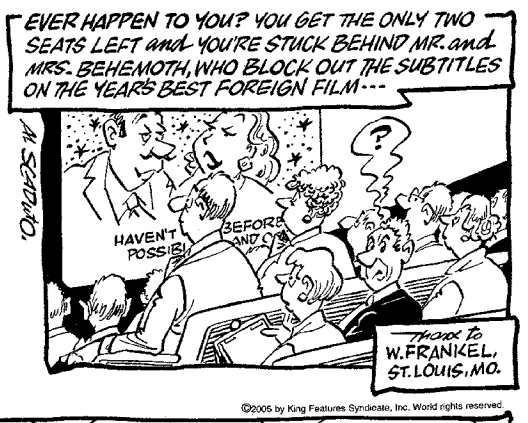

KOFF! KOFF! I'LL NEVER GET TO SLEEP TONIGHT...
...AND I HAVE AN IMPORTANT CLIENT TO SEE TOMORROW
ACHOO!
I GOT A COUGH, DRY THROAT, HEADACHE AND INSOMNIA...
HERE, HARRY, SOME "NICURALL"
WOW! WHAT GREAT STUFF! THE COUGH AND HEADACHE ARE GONE! I FEEL LIKE A NEW MAN!
AND I'LL BE ABLE TO MEET THAT IMPORTANT CLIENT TOMORROW!
YES, FOLKS... "NICURALL" SAVES THE NIGHT AND THE DAY!
HAPPY ENDINGS ALWAYS GET TO ME!
www.kingfeatures.com

## Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps


AH GEEZ, ANOTHER MORNING HAS COME FAR TOO QUICKLY.
OK JIM, YOU CAN DO IT. JUST TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND GET TO WORK.
KEEP A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, BE READY FOR ANYTHING EVEN THE UNEXPECTED.
WILL PAINT-REMOVER WORK ON HAIR...LIKE DOG HAIR?
TRUMPED AGAIN.

## The Spats by Jeff Pickering

## They'll Do It Every Time by Al Scaduto


EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? YOU GET THE ONLY TWO SEATS LEFT and YOU'RE STUCK BEHIND MR. and MRS. BEHEMOTH, WHO BLOCK OUT THE SUBTITLES ON THE YEAR'S BEST FOREIGN FILM---
HAVEN'T POSSIBL
BEFORE AND
AL SCADUTO
Thanx to W. FRANKEL, ST. LOUIS, MO.

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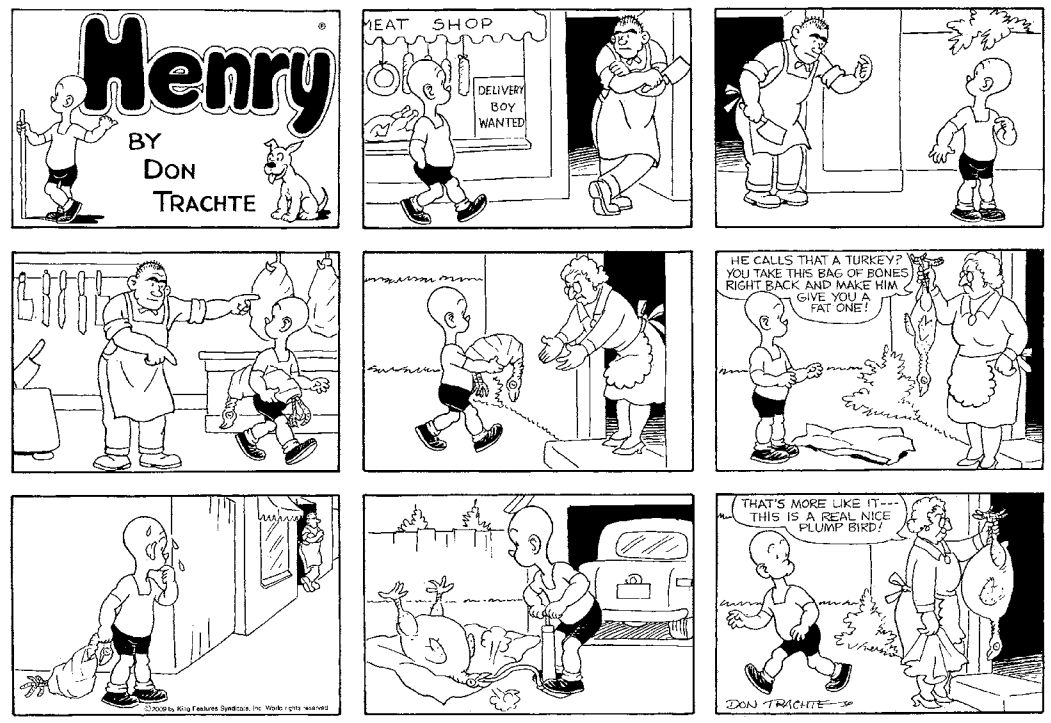
OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS NO. 1,753-- PITY POOR NURSE ROLA ROTUNDA, WHO'S TRYING TO REDUCE...

Thanx to J. LOPEZ, SEATTLE, WA.

HOW 'BOUT SOME FUDGE OR TAFFY, HON?
OH, NURSE--TRY SOME OF THIS DELICIOUS CANDY...
HAVE A COUPLA COOKIES--AND A PASTRY OR THEY'LL GO TO WASTE--

## Henry BY DON TRACHTE


MEAT SHOP
DELIVERY BOY WANTED
HE CALLS THAT A TURKEY? YOU TAKE THIS BAG OF BONES RIGHT BACK AND MAKE HIM GIVE YOU A FAT ONE!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT--- THIS IS A REAL NICE PLUMP BIRD!
DON TRACHTE

# CLASSIFIED ADS

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|---|---|
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| • 5-Liner | $35 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $45 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $55 |

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**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Looking for Used Car, Good running condition. We pay CASH! Please call 287-7676.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**ACT**

**CHAR ER**

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# Boozer, Jazz rebound in 113-99 win over Spurs

**SALT LAKE CITY** (AP)—Carlos Boozer ended his slump with 27 points and 14 rebounds and the Utah Jazz snapped a two-game losing skid by beating the San Antonio Spurs 113-99 on Thursday night.

Deron Williams also scored 27 and had nine assists in Utah's first win over San Antonio since April 2008. Andrei Kirilenko added 12 points and six assists and rookie Wesley Matthews scored a career-high 12 points for Utah, which improved to 2-3.

Tim Duncan had 15 points and 13 rebounds and Tony Parker had 21 points, but scored just four in the second half as the Spurs couldn't overcome the Jazz's shooting.

Boozer finished 12 for 20 and the Jazz went 44 for 83.

DuJuan Blair scored 14 and Manu Ginobili had 11 points for the Spurs.

Mehmet Okur and Ronnie Brewer scored 10 apiece as all five Utah starters scored in double figures.

Utah was coming off a devastating loss at Dallas on Tuesday, when they blew a 16-point lead and allowed the Mavericks to come back and win with a 44-point fourth quarter.

The Jazz smothered any comeback attempts the Spurs had and ended a four-game skid to San Antonio.

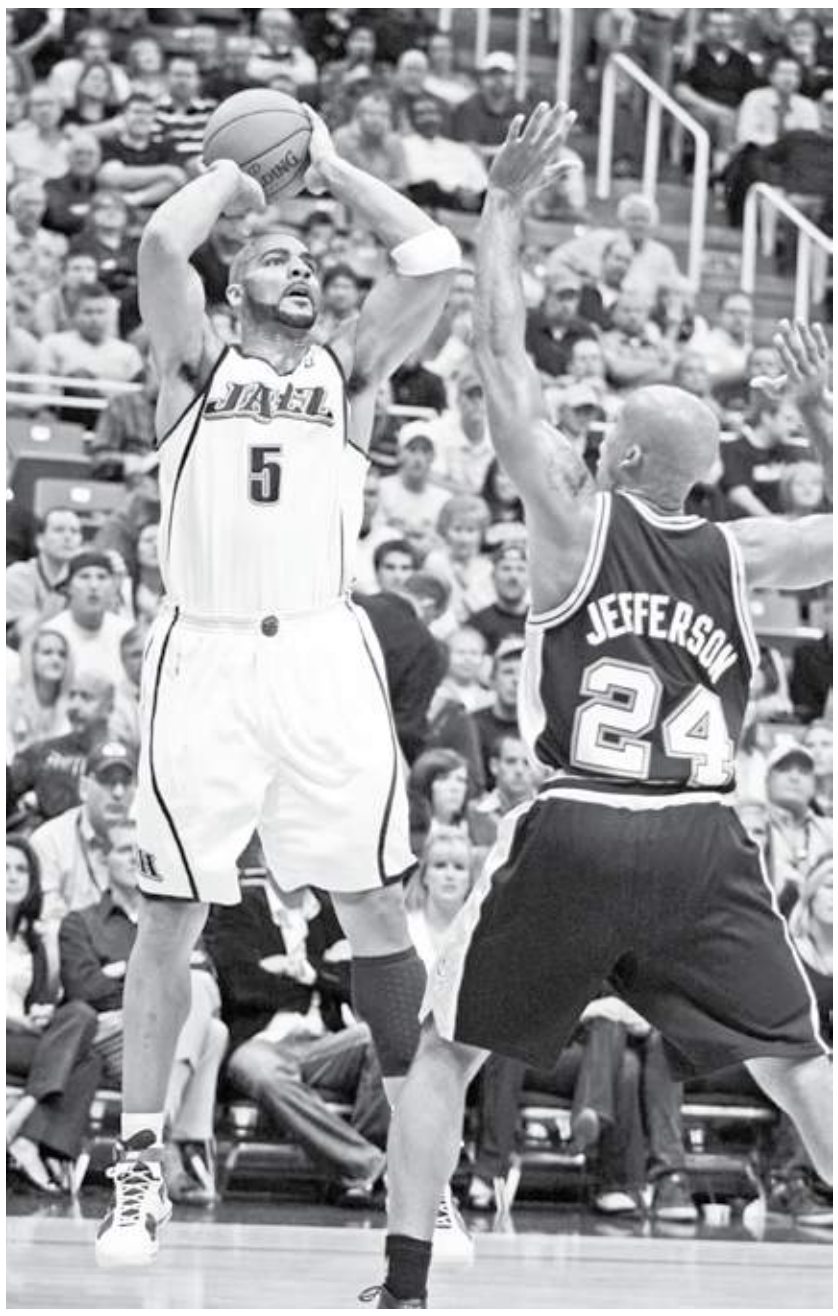
Utah was up by 10 at halftime and only let the Spurs get as close as eight before pulling away and protecting the big lead this time.

Boozer was shooting just 35 percent entering the game and was booed when he missed his first shot early in the first quarter, but quickly won back the fans with a couple of hustle plays. Boozer tied up Duncan and forced two jump balls in the first quarter, then carried Utah with his offense.

Boozer also had two steals, both times swatting the ball away from Duncan in the lane and had three assists.

The Jazz led 93-80 after three and survived a brief lull before pulling away again.

Duncan got San Antonio back to 97-86 on a putback, but Paul Millsap answered with a layup and Boozer hit a shot to put Utah back up 103-88. After Michael Finley went 1 for 2 from the line for the Spurs, Boozer stripped the ball from Duncan to start a fast break, which Matthews ended with a layup to put the Jazz up by 16.



AP

Utah Jazz forward Carlos Boozer (5) shoots over San Antonio Spurs forward Richard Jefferson (24) during the second half of their NBA basketball game Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009, in Salt Lake City.

### Bulls 86, Cavaliers 85

At Cleveland, Luol Deng scored 15 points and helped stop LeBron James on a drive in the final seconds as the Chicago Bulls ended Cleveland's three-game winning streak with a win over the Cavaliers.

Derrick Rose had 14 points and 11 assists and John Salmons added 14 points for the Bulls, who handed the Cavs their second loss at home. Cleveland, which lost to Boston in its opener, only lost two regular-season games and went 45-3 at Quicken Loans Arena last season.

James, who led the Cavaliers with 25 points, lost the ball out of bounds with 3.2 seconds to go after powering his way to the hoop. He drew contact on the play from both Deng and Joakim Noah as the ball slipped from his hands but the officials didn't feel he was fouled.

James spent a few extra moments on the floor after the game politely pleading his case.

Down 86-85, the Cavaliers, who sputtered on offense all night, buckled down and made the defensive stop they needed by forcing a 24-second shot clock violation. Cleveland called a full timeout and set up a play. But before they could inbound the ball, Bulls coach Vinny Del Negro called a 20-second T.O. to reset his defense.

James took the pass and got a step on Deng in the lane. As he neared the basket, Noah came over to help and bumped Cleveland's superstar. The ball went out of bounds with two-tenths of a second left, but before the referees gave the ball to Chicago, they watched another replay of their call.

As they huddled at the scorer's table, James came over to give his view on the play.

"I got hammered," he said. "He (Noah) jumped towards me."

After the horn, James made one last visit to officials Ron Garretson, Michael Smith and Eli Roe. There was nothing he could do at that point but shrug his shoulders and head to the locker room.

Shaquille O'Neal had 14 points and 10 rebounds and Anderson Varejao added 12 with 13 rebounds for the Cavs, who were just 6 of 19 from the field in the fourth and finished 12 of 20 on free throws. One of Chicago's defensive goals was to send the Cavs to the line, where they came in shooting just 70 percent.

Brad Miller scored 10 points and Chicago's reserves outscored Cleveland's 25-12 in a choppy game between the Central Division rivals.

James went down twice in the first half with apparent injuries while running off the floor.

First, he rolled his left ankle after pulling up under Cleveland's basket. Then, he banged himself hard on a chair while diving into the seats going after a loose ball at the other end. As James was being checked by trainer Max Benton, the entire Cleveland team and coaching staff walked over to make sure he was OK.

With the Cavaliers making their only trip this season to New York on Friday, James knows the atmosphere inside Madison Square Garden will be more electrified. He's eligible for free agency after the season, and Knicks fans are praying he'll come to the Big Apple and resurrect their NBA franchise.

James is prepared for another round of questions about his intentions next summer and joked that he hasn't ruled out signing with any team.

"I thought about playing everywhere, for every team in the NBA," he said diplomatically.

Even the Clippers?

"Everywhere," he said, smiling. "At one point in my life I thought about playing for every team. All of them."

## NBA BRIEFS

### No penalties for Chris Paul, Rajon Rondo

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The NBA will not penalize Chris Paul or Rajon Rondo for an incident between them after a recent game in Boston. Paul pursued Rondo toward the Celtics' locker room and was blocked by Boston assistant coaches after the Celtics' 97-87 victory over New Orleans on Sunday night. The point guards had been assessed matching technical fouls in the second quarter after they got tangled up under the basket. League spokesman Tim Frank also says Thursday the league won't take action against Paul from a game at New York on Monday. Knicks forward Al Harrington came up with a loose ball after a Hornets turnover with about 5 1/2 minutes left. Paul dove on top of him and made contact with Harrington's head.

### Ontario to investigate Raptors' swine flu shots

**TORONTO** (AP)—Ontario health minister Deb Matthews vowed on Thursday to investigate whether Toronto's NBA and NHL players jumped the line for the swine flu shot while other groups are being forced to wait as the province's supply dwindles. Matthews said she shares the outrage sparked by reports that Raptors and Maple Leafs players got the shot even though the province doesn't have enough yet to vaccinate school-age children. "I don't care who you are, how rich you are, how famous you are," she said. "If you're not in the priority group, get out of the line and let the people who are in the priority groups get their vaccination." Matthews expects Ontario to run out of the regular H1N1 vaccine at the end of the week due to Ottawa's dramatic supply slowdown. The province has enough vaccine to immunize 2.2 million people, which is intended only for the estimated 3.4 million Ontarians who fall under the province's high-priority groups, she said. They include pregnant women, children between 6 months and 5 years of age, people who care for infants and other people who can't get the vaccine, people under the age of 65 with chronic conditions and those living in remote communities. The government wants to add school-age children as a priority group, but Matthews said it doesn't have enough vaccine.

### Kings' Andres Nocioni arrested

**SACRAMENTO, California** (AP)—Sacramento Kings forward Andres Nocioni was arrested on suspicion of drunk driving on Thursday. "I want to apologize to the Kings organization, my teammates, my coaches, the fans, the city of Sacramento and my family," Nocioni said in a statement. "Drinking and driving is something that shouldn't be taken lightly. I made a mistake and I'm very sorry for my lapse in judgment." Nocioni was booked into the Sacramento County jail early Thursday and released within hours. Sacramento police Sgt. Norm Leong said Nocioni was pulled over around 2 a.m. in downtown Sacramento when an officer noticed the Argentine's car weaving. The officer noticed an odor of alcohol and conducted a field test before booking Nocioni on suspicion of driving under the influence. The team said it was disappointed in Nocioni's "poor judgment" and would wait for the league to decide on potential discipline. "He has apologized to the organization and his teammates," president of basketball operations Geoff Petrie said. "We will wait for the outcome of the judicial process and the NBA's decision on potential fines and or suspension. This experience now becomes a life lesson learned the hard way."

# NOW calls for Raiders coach Cable to be suspended

**ALAMEDA, Calif.** (AP)—The National Organization for Women called on the Oakland Raiders to suspend coach Tom Cable while the team investigates allegations he has a history of violent behavior toward women.

NOW president Terry O'Neill praised the Raiders in a statement for undertaking a "serious evaluation" of charges made by Cable's first wife, Sandy Cable, and former girlfriend, Marie Lutz, that the coach physically abused them at various times during their relationships.

But she said that Cable should be suspended while that investigation proceeds. The Raiders had no comment.

"This is the National Football League. Boys and girls around the country, as well as many women, look to the leaders of the NFL as our role models," O'Neill said in a phone interview. "Why would the NFL tolerate having a man who admits to having battered his wife."

Cable has acknowledged striking Sandy Cable with an open hand more than 20 years ago and said it was the only time he's ever touched a woman inappropriately. Marie Lutz accused Cable of assaulting her as recently as last January, but Cable said previously he was cleared by police of any wrongdoing in that case.

"I take the accusations very seriously," O'Neill said. "What you have is a man who seems to be a person who habitually uses violence to get what he wants. That's what batterers do."

O'Neill said she has not contacted the Raiders or the NFL directly. Cable said Thursday he did not believe pressure from outside groups would influence what the team decides to do with him.

"I think it will be handled properly," he said. "I'm going to leave it at that right now."

The NOW statement was first reported by USA Today.

# Yankees turn attention to title No. 28

**NEWYORK** (AP)—The sign men were out bright and early at the Yankees minor league complex, sticking vinyl strips with a fresh, white "27" over the "26" that had been up on the board for nine, long years to mark the team's total of World Series titles.

Wind caused a few problems at the Himes complex in Tampa, Fla., but eventually the numbers were posted along with a new "2009" in what had been an open blue space below "2000."

"It's a ton of joy," manager Joe Girardi said on WFAN radio later in the day. "There's a sense of relief because you know that you could rest your mind a little bit for a while."

Turmoil and turnover ceased in Yankeeland, at least for the moment. A 7-3 victory over Philadelphia on Wednesday night had brought the title back to the Bronx, etching the names of Alex Rodriguez, Hideki Matsui, Johnny Damon, CC Sabathia and others into the team's long list of champions.

"Every World Series victory is special, but this one is especially sweet coming in the first year in our new home," owner George Steinbrenner said in a statement. "This group will become legendary - similar to the 26 world championship teams that preceded them."

Even though the clubhouse was still wet with champagne Thursday and the triumphant parade through the Canyon of Heroes was a day away, attention already was turning to the future.

Girardi said he was likely to switch from uniform No. 27 to No. 28 next year, signifying the next quest.

But which players will the Yankees add for their title defense? Are the likes of John Lackey and Matt Holliday in the mix?

"Basically, you have got to get after it," general manager Brian Cashman said Thursday. "It pretty much comes pretty quick. I'll be in Chicago with the other GMs on Monday. Two trades already have taken place."

Matsui, the World Series MVP, is eligible for free agency as is Andy Pettitte, who beat the Phillies in Games 3 and 6. So is Johnny Damon.

Matsui, limited to designated hitter because of bad knees, wants to return. So does Damon, bothered by leg and back pain.

AP

Chris Sessa, left, and Shawn Kunkle, employees of Signs USA Inc., in Tampa, Fla., change the numbers on the championship sign Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009, outside the New York Yankees minor league complex in Tampa.

The 37-year-old Pettitte needs time to decide whether to retire or return for a 16th major league season and try for a sixth World Series ring.

"I have to talk with my family," he said.

There may not be room for Damon, who turned 36 Thursday, and the 35-year-old Matsui, especially if the Yankees land Holliday, the top available free-agent slugger on the market. Damon and Holliday both are represented by the same agent, Scott Boras.

"They could play Matt Holliday in right field, too," Boras said. "He has a strong arm. They have needs for two outfielders."

Nick Swisher, who took over in right after Xavier Nady got hurt, hit just .128 with two RBIs in the postseason after batting .249 with 29 homers and 82 RBIs during the regular season. But the St. Louis Cardinals, who acquired Holliday from Oakland in July, are expected to try to re-sign the 29-year-old.

"Certainly St. Louis has an interest in Matt," Boras said. "Matt had a very enjoyable time there."

The Yankees figure to be after pitching, too, and Lackey figures to be the top available free-agent starting pitcher. New York's used just three starting pitchers throughout the postseason—Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and Pettitte—deciding not to take a chance on starting Joba Chamberlain or Chad Gaudin. New York became the first Series champion with just three postseason starters since the 1991 Minnesota Twins.

Chien-Ming Wang had shoulder surgery on July 29 and can't be counted on for the start of next season. Depending on offseason events, Chamberlain and Phil Hughes could wind up in the rotation or the bullpen. And left-hander Damaso Marte has given Girardi new confidence after the Phillies went 0 for 8 with five strikeouts in the Series.

Girardi was especially pleased with the breakout postseason of Alex Rodriguez, who led the Yankees with a .365 average, six homers, 18 RBIs, 15 runs and 12 walks.

"I'm sure Alex was tired of answering the questions about the last few years in the postseason," Girardi said on the radio show.

Rodriguez said he felt liberated after admitting to using steroids from 2001-03, then missing the first month of the season while recovering from hip surgery.

"I think there was a burden that was probably lifted off of him when he came back from Colorado and had a chance to self reflect," Girardi said. "He went through a tough year last year—the marital problems and the divorce, and that's never easy, and then the hip problem and then the steroid use. I think there was a relief when he got through everything and got to the other side."

More than anything, Thursday was a day for numbers. Five World Series rings for Pettitte, Derek Jeter, Jorge Posada and Mariano Rivera. The first for A-Rod.

And for Girardi, questions about whether he will take No. 28. First, he wants to consult the incumbent, who wasn't on the postseason roster.

"I got to talk to Shelley Duncan to see if he allows me to wear it," Girardi said. "I think I'm going to make a number change."

## Japanese fans celebrate Matsui's MVP performance

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan nearly came to a standstill as millions watched on TV while Hideki Matsui, the man they know as Godzilla, stomped around New York to lead the Yankees to the World Series title.

Matsui became the first Japanese-born player to win the MVP trophy for the Most Valuable Player of the World Series with a record-tying six RBIs in the clincher to lead the Yankees over the Philadelphia Phillies 7-3 on Wednesday.

Matsui homered, doubled and singled in Game 6, highlighting a Series in which he hit .615 with three home runs and eight RBIs.

Japanese workers crammed into downtown electronics stores to watch the final few innings on giant TVs. The game ended just before 2 p.m. local time Thursday, giving workers an excuse to take an extended lunch break.

"All the news recently has been about Ichiro Suzuki," said office worker Hiroyuki Takeuchi, who took the morning off to watch the game. "But Matsui's presence is huge. He overcame injuries and came through with the performance of a lifetime. As a Japanese, I'm very proud today."

Matsui was a three-time MVP for the Yomiuri Giants in the regular season in 1996, 2000 and 2002, his last year in Japan. He also won the MVP award in the 2000 Japan Series, Japan's version of the World Series.

Earning the nickname "Godzilla," Matsui hit 50 home runs in 2002. The No. 55 on his uniform is a tribute to Sadaharu Oh's single-season home run record.

"As the first Japanese to win an MVP in the World Series, this is a great accomplishment for Matsui and will have a huge impact," said former San Francisco Giants pitcher Masanori Murakami, the first Japanese player to play in the major leagues, who watched at his Tokyo home.

Matsui always has been popular in Japan, but his decision not to play in the World Baseball Classic drew criticism from some fans. Matsui always said he was passing over the WBC to prepare for the season with the Yankees.

The 35-year-old designated hitter is in the final year of a $52 million, four-year contract. And every baseball fan across Japan wants to know this: What will the Yankees do with Matsui?

"He's a very hard worker and is serious about his career," Murakami said. "I hope he stays with the Yankees. I know he wants to stay, and the Japanese fans want him to stay."

Japanese sports dailies have speculated about his future, some even saying he might return to Japan to play for the Hanshin Tigers, the fierce Central League rivals of the Giants.

"I hope he stays in New York," Takeuchi said. "He looks good in pinstripes."

## MLB BRIEFS

### Matsui bat, Damon spikes headed to Hall of Fame

**COOPERSTOWN, N.Y.** (AP)—Hideki Matsui's bat and Johnny Damon's spikes are among the items from the Yankees' World Series title going to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Nearly a dozen pieces were donated after New York won Wednesday night and will be displayed as part of an exhibit on baseball's postseason history. They include the bat Matsui used to drive in a record-tying six runs in Game 6 and the spikes Damon wore when he stole two bases on one pitch in Game 4. Other items include the cap worn by Phillies pitcher Cliff Lee during his dominant postseason and the No. 46 jersey worn by Andy Pettitte during Game 6 of the ALCS, when he set a record with 16 postseason victories.

### Angels re-sign Abreu to 2-year deal

**ANAHEIM, Calif.** (AP)—The Los Angeles Angels have re-signed outfielder Bobby Abreu to a two-year contract. The deal also contains a club option for 2012. Abreu joined the Angels shortly before spring training last winter and enjoyed a standout year, batting .293 with 15 home runs, 103 RBIs and 30 stolen bases. The two-time All-Star has driven in at least 100 runs in seven straight seasons, tied for the majors' longest active streak. Several Los Angeles teammates credited Abreu with changing the club's approach at the plate with his deliberate, patient atbats. The AL West champions reached several offensive franchise bests this year. Abreu spent the previous 2 1/2 seasons with the New York Yankees after 8 1/2 years with Philadelphia.

### Red Sox land Hermida from Marlins

**MIAMI** (AP)—The Florida Marlins are big on players who outperform their contract, which is why outfielder Jeremy Hermida is bound for Boston. The Red Sox acquired the former first-round draft choice Thursday for left-handers Hunter Jones and Jose Alvarez. Hermida was the 11th overall pick in 2002 but has yet to fulfill his projected potential. He was among Florida's best-paid players this year at $2.25 million but hit only .259 with 13 home runs and 47 RBIs in 129 games. "When you acquire a player, sometimes you acquire them because you think there's a chance that with a change of scenery they'll reach their potential," Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein said. "Things never really came together for him in the big leagues. That's not uncommon for young players. He's about to turn 26, coming into his prime. ..."It may not happen; it may not happen with us," Epstein added. "Certainly we liked him a lot as an amateur and throughout his minor league career, so from those factors it was a reasonable deal."

### Giants ace Lincecum cited for marijuana possession

**SEATTLE** (AP)—San Francisco Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum is facing misdemeanor marijuana charges following a traffic stop in his home state. Washington State Patrol spokesman Steve Schatzel said Thursday that the 2008 Cy Young Award winner and former University of Washington star was pulled over for speeding on Interstate 5 in the town of Hazel Dell, about four miles north of the Oregon border, on Oct. 30. An officer approached Lincecum's 2006 Mercedes and smelled marijuana as the pitcher rolled down his window. Schatzel said Lincecum immediately complied with a request to hand over the drug and a marijuana pipe from the car's center console. The amount measured was 3.3 grams. Schatzel said police consider that a small amount for personal use, well below the maximum of 40 grams before possession is classified differently and carries a more severe penalty. The incident was first reported by The Columbian in Vancouver, Wash.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 6 | 0 | 1.000 | – |
| Philadelphia | 2 | 2 | .500 | 3 |
| Toronto | 2 | 2 | .500 | 3 |
| New York | 1 | 4 | .200 | 4 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 0 | 5 | .000 | 5 1/2 |

**Southeast Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 4 | 1 | .800 | – |
| Miami | 4 | 1 | .800 | – |
| Orlando | 4 | 1 | .800 | – |
| Charlotte | 2 | 2 | .500 | 1 1/2 |
| Washington | 2 | 3 | .400 | 2 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicago | 3 | 2 | .600 | – |
| Cleveland | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1/2 |
| Detroit | 2 | 3 | .400 | 1 |
| Milwaukee | 1 | 2 | .333 | 1 |
| Indiana | 1 | 3 | .250 | 1 1/2 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dallas | 3 | 2 | .600 | – |
| Houston | 3 | 2 | .600 | – |
| San Antonio | 2 | 2 | .500 | 1/2 |
| New Orleans | 2 | 3 | .400 | 1 |
| Memphis | 1 | 4 | .200 | 2 |

**Northwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 5 | 0 | 1.000 | – |
| Oklahoma City | 2 | 2 | .500 | 2 1/2 |
| Portland | 2 | 3 | .400 | 3 |
| Utah | 2 | 3 | .400 | 3 |
| Minnesota | 1 | 4 | .200 | 4 |

**Pacific Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 4 | 1 | .800 | – |
| Phoenix | 4 | 1 | .800 | – |
| Golden State | 1 | 2 | .333 | 2 |
| L.A. Clippers | 1 | 4 | .200 | 3 |
| Sacramento | 1 | 4 | .200 | 3 |

**Yesterday's Games**
Chicago 86, Cleveland 85
Utah 113, San Antonio 99

### NBA LEADERS

**SCORING**

| | G | FG | FT | PTS | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bryant, LAL | 5 | 56 | 51 | 166 | 33.2 |
| Anthony, DEN | 5 | 51 | 51 | 160 | 32.0 |
| Martin, SAC | 5 | 47 | 42 | 153 | 30.6 |
| Paul, NOR | 5 | 54 | 30 | 150 | 30.0 |
| Bosh, TOR | 4 | 34 | 47 | 118 | 29.5 |
| Wade, MIA | 5 | 48 | 46 | 146 | 29.2 |
| Arenas, WAS | 5 | 44 | 40 | 138 | 27.6 |
| Nowitzki, DAL | 5 | 40 | 47 | 131 | 26.2 |
| Roy, POR | 5 | 36 | 46 | 127 | 25.4 |
| James, CLE | 5 | 41 | 35 | 126 | 25.2 |
| Gordon, DET | 5 | 39 | 39 | 126 | 25.2 |
| Harrington, NYK | 5 | 41 | 33 | 120 | 24.0 |
| Durant, OKC | 4 | 31 | 30 | 94 | 23.5 |
| Ellis, GOL | 3 | 27 | 14 | 69 | 23.0 |
| Granger, IND | 4 | 29 | 22 | 92 | 23.0 |
| Johnson, ATL | 5 | 43 | 22 | 114 | 22.8 |
| Kaman, LAC | 5 | 48 | 17 | 113 | 22.6 |
| Williams, UTA | 4 | 32 | 19 | 89 | 22.3 |
| Jennings, MIL | 3 | 26 | 7 | 66 | 22.0 |
| Bargnani, TOR | 4 | 31 | 16 | 88 | 22.0 |

**FG PERCENTAGE**

| | FG | FGA | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Biedrins, GOL | 11 | 12 | .917 |
| Blair, SAN | 12 | 17 | .706 |
| Dampier, DAL | 20 | 30 | .667 |
| Hayes, HOU | 22 | 34 | .647 |
| Howard, ORL | 33 | 51 | .647 |
| Paul, NOR | 54 | 84 | .643 |
| Duncan, SAN | 20 | 32 | .625 |
| Perkins, BOS | 24 | 39 | .615 |
| Gasol, MEM | 29 | 48 | .604 |
| Blatche, WAS | 35 | 58 | .603 |

**REBOUNDS**

| | G | OFF | DEF | TOT | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wallace, CHA | 4 | 14 | 42 | 56 | 14.0 |
| Bosh, TOR | 4 | 14 | 38 | 52 | 13.0 |
| Duncan, SAN | 3 | 7 | 31 | 38 | 12.7 |
| Gasol, MEM | 5 | 20 | 43 | 63 | 12.6 |
| Lee, NYK | 5 | 17 | 42 | 59 | 11.8 |
| Howard, ORL | 5 | 18 | 41 | 59 | 11.8 |
| Horford, ATL | 5 | 15 | 43 | 58 | 11.6 |
| Okafor, NOR | 5 | 15 | 41 | 56 | 11.2 |
| Bynum, LAL | 5 | 20 | 33 | 53 | 10.6 |
| Deng, CHI | 4 | 16 | 26 | 42 | 10.5 |

**ASSISTS**

| | G | AST | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nash, PHX | 5 | 54 | 10.8 |
| Rondo, BOS | 6 | 58 | 9.7 |
| Williams, UTA | 4 | 35 | 8.8 |
| Kidd, DAL | 5 | 43 | 8.6 |
| Paul, NOR | 5 | 41 | 8.2 |
| James, CLE | 5 | 41 | 8.2 |
| Westbrook, OKC | 4 | 32 | 8.0 |
| Brooks, HOU | 5 | 40 | 8.0 |
| B. Davis, LAC | 5 | 38 | 7.6 |
| Duhon, NYK | 5 | 34 | 6.8 |

*BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS*

### LOCAL SCORES

**ROTARY STANDINGS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| G-Stars | 6 | 0 |
| Sixers | 6 | 1 |
| Sonics | 6 | 2 |
| 670 Rollers II | 5 | 2 |
| Sparks | 4 | 2 |
| Runnin' Rebels | 4 | 4 |
| CK Saints | 4 | 4 |
| Rollers I | 3 | 3 |
| Ol'Aces | 2 | 4 |
| Young 670 Rollers 3 | 2 | 6 |
| Hi-5 | 0 | 7 |
| Celtics | 0 | 7 |

# Women's bowling celebrates Halloween

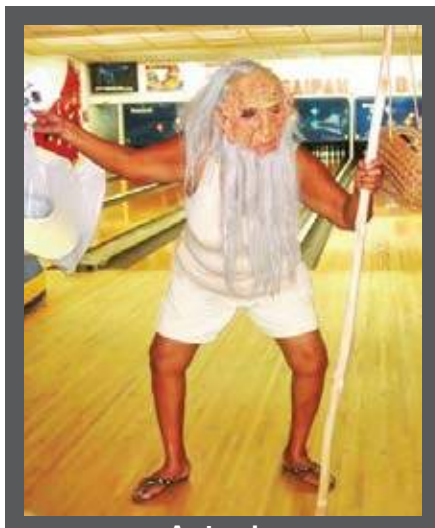
Saipan Women's Thursday Night Bowling Association marked its weekly roll-off with a Halloween costume contest during last week's tournament at the Saipan Bowling Center in San Jose.

Association secretary/treasurer Lucy Deleon Guerrero said this was the first time that they had such event and it aimed to encourage more female keglers to join the club.

"We, the Saipan Women's Thursday Night Bowling Association decided to have something different during our weekly league. So, to make the game more exciting and encourage more players to come, we thought of having our own Halloween-themed event," Deleon Guerrero said.

Cash prizes, which came from the tickets sold among members and contributions from individuals and private companies, were given to three winners of the costume contest.

"We raised money through selling of tickets among ourselves every Thursday night, and made $600. Besides that, we had quite a lot of monetary and in-kind contributions from Mr. Juan S. Tenorio, MarPac, Expression and Congressman Yumul," Deleon Guerrero said.


Antonio

Camacho

Torres

Bert Torres won in the prettiest costume contest and took home $150. She wore a traditional Japanese kimono dress. Also pocketing $150 each were Mary Camacho (funniest costume) and Vicky Antonio (scariest). Camacho came to the Thursday roll-off in diapers, while Antonio wore an old man mask.

Meanwhile, Deleon Guerrero is inviting interested female bowlers to join them in the weekly roll-offs. She said they are still open for membership.

Besides Deleon Guerrero, other officers of the association are Sue Ellis, president; Geraldine Cruz, vice president; and Emlyn Aldan, sergeant at-arms.

For more information about the club and its tournaments, contact Deleon Guerrero 288-3605 or 236-9830 or Ellis at 287-7649, 664-1504. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

# Cotto to check Pacman's hand wraps

Team Miguel Cotto is making sure there will not be a repeat of his loss to Antonio Margarito, where the latter is suspected to have used illegal handwraps to defeat the Puerto Rican by knockout.

Miguel Cotto Sr, who is part of his son's team, told the media yesterday during his son's public workout at the Pound4Pound Gym in Los Angeles that his team will keep an eye on Pacquiao when the latter tapes his hand for the fight.

"Yeah, we will send someone to keep an eye on them to make sure they do not cheat," the elder Cotto was quoted by Philboxing.com's Dr. Ed De la Vega as saying.

At the public workout, Cotto arrived on a limosine with his trainer Joe Santiago and a very small entourage, in stark contrast to an army of hangers-on who reside with Team Pacquiao at his apartment in Los Angeles.

"Cotto appears extremely fit contrary to certain published observations in the media. Although he did not reply when asked how much he presently weigh, he appeared to be somewhere close to the fight weigh of 145 lbs. Therefore, Team Pacquiao can forget about getting a million bucks for every pound that Cotto will weigh above 145 lbs when they officially step on the scales a day prior to the fight," Philboxing.com reported.

Meanwhile, Cotto also informed the media that Pacquiao can fight Floyd Mayweather Jr as many times as he wants after he is done with the Filipino icon. ***(PDI)***

## ROLLERS

*From Page 28*

backcourt resulting to a helter-skelter basketball.

When Jimmy Tudela finally had a hand on the ball, he made a baseball pass from the backcourt to Ariel Urbano, who was running to the frontcourt for a possible fastbreak play. However, Savali Talalemoto deflected the pass and the ball went out to the baseline.

Hi-5 kept the ball with 59 seconds left in the second half and made a costly error in the inbound play. Young 670 Rollers pressured receivers of the inbound pass and with Raymond Cabaltica worried being caught with a five-second inbound violation, he went for a lob to Tudela near midcourt. Deleon Guerreto anticipated the kick-out and stole the ball en route to a fastbreak layup that gave Young 670 Rollers the lead, 43-41, with 45 seconds left on the clock.

In the ensuing play, Hi-5's Ezra Caro drove to the left baseline, but the burly Talalemoto was there to swat away his shot. Then there was a battle for the loose ball and Young 670 Rollers won with Deleon Guerrero drilling another breakaway layup and widening his team's lead, 45-41, with 32 seconds remaining in the game.

Instead of going for a quick two-point basket, Hi-5 opted for a triple in its next offensive set and missed. Possession returned to Young 670 Rollers and Baka increased the lead to six, 47-41, when he canned a fallaway jumper off a Talalemoto fumble in the paints.

Hi-5 broke its more than a minute silence with a layup from Jeremiah Reyes. However, only eight seconds were left in the game and with Young 670 Rollers having the leather and a four-point lead, there was no way Hi-5 could stole the victory.

The win was Young 670 Rollers' second in eight matches, while the loss was Hi-5's seventh in as many games.

Jon Norita top-scored for Young 670 Rollers with 19 points, while Daymark Teregeyo and Talalemoto chipped in 11 markers apiece.

Caro led Hi-5's losing cause, firing 16 points.

Young 670 Rollers' victory in the second game guaranteed a sweep for Rollers Basketball Club, as 670 Rollers II earlier won against the Chalan Kanoa Saints in the first match, 55-45.

670 Rollers II controlled the first half, leading by eight at halftime, 24-16, and hung in there to improve to a 5-2 slate.

Jimmy Brel and Sheen Metran paced 670 Rollers II with 11 points apiece, while Ryan Lisua contributed 10.

Leo Galarse had 13 points for the Saints, who dropped to a 4-4 record.

### First Game

**Rollers II 55** – Brel 11, Metran 11, Lisua 10, Deleon Guerrero 7, Danas 4, Laniyo 4, Ogo 4, Palacios 2, Kaipat 2.

**Saints 45** – Galarse 13, Tudela 8, L. Reyes 7, Iglecias 6, D.Reyes 4, Pangelinan 4, Namelo 2, Deleon Guerrero 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 24-16, 55-45.

### Second Game

**Young 670 Rollers 47** – Norita 19, Teregeyo11, Talalemoto 11, Baka 8, Deleon Guerrero 6, Orejola 2.

**Hi-5 43** – Caro 16, Cabaltica 9, Urbano 6, Tudela 5, Reyes 5, Atalig 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-23, 47-43.

## RGA

*From Page 28*

In the December qualifier, the RGA member with the best net score will move one step away from clinching a monthly plum and joining the club championship.

The club championship is set for Dec. 6 with the venue to be announced later. At stake in next month's tournament is the coveted Plas M. Tagabuel trophy.

Before the club championship, RGA will first hold the December Ace tournament on Nov. 21 to determine the 12 finalists for the Dec. 6 tournament. The first 10 finalists are Ben Duenas, Jesse Seman, Ray Tigilau, Asterio Tawanpiy, Tars Olopai, Cui Xian Lai, Joe Saures, Sonny Flores, and Nick Sablan.

Finalists must compete in at least six RGA events to officially make it to the club championship. Failing to do so will disqualify the monthly winner and will give runners-up the chance to participate in the December event.

For more information about RGA's remaining tournaments, contact club president Jordon Kosam at 483-4506 or Jess Wabol at 288-1129.

## NO 'GIVE

*From Page 28*

that really doesn't matter to me or my team," Lee said.

When Docomo plays Hyatt, IT&E will helplessly wait for the results and wished it should have beaten Hyatt to avoid the deadlock.

"It's a tough situation to be in but we experienced the same thing last year when we won all but one of our games and missed out on the regular season title. The truth is that we should've just beaten Hyatt so we wouldn't have to wait and see what happens," IT&E player Brad Ruszala said.

"We've kept an eye on Hyatt's progress ever since they beat us in overtime. Sure, We're hoping that someone might knock them off, but if they win their final game, they will have earned their title," he added.

Once the much-anticipated Docomo-Hyatt game is completed, IT&E is ready to move on and aim for back-to-back titles. IT&E won over Northern Marianas College in last season's intergovernment/business league caging.

"No team in the history of the Inter-Government Basketball League has ever won back-to-back titles. The competition is incredibly tough this year and all teams came into the season prepared to win a championship," Ruszala said.

"On the eve of the playoffs, it's really a toss-up between all of the eight finalists. I don't see a clear-cut favorite because all teams are so tough. There won't be a 'gimme game' on the road to the finals. We'll give everything we can and hope for the best," he added.

Besides the Hyatt-Docomo tiff, other matches set for next week are Customs vs. MBI on Nov 9; Tinian vs. CHC on Nov. 13; and MBI vs. Tinian on Nov. 14. All these games will determine the playoffs cast and the positions of each team.

After IT&E, Hyatt, and Docomo, the fourth to eighth place in the team standings are occupied by PSS (7-4), Tinian (5-4), MBI (5-5), and CHC (3-6). Bank of Guam and Department of Community and Cultural Affairs had identical 4-7 slates and one of them could still make it to the playoffs if CHC loses its two remaining games. Customs (2-8) and CPA-ARFF (0-10) are out of the running.

**Boozer, Jazz rebound in 113-99 win over Spurs**

Carlos Boozer ended his slump with 27 points and 14 rebounds and the Utah Jazz snapped a two-game losing skid by beating the San Antonio Spurs 113-99 on Thursday night. 25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

**Women's bowling celebrates Halloween**

Saipan Women's Thursday Night Bowling Association marked its weekly roll-off with a Halloween costume contest during last week's tournament at the Saipan Bowling Center in San Jose. 27

# Sikkel named athlete of the month

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paddler Richard Sikkel earned the NMASA Male Athlete of the Month for October after steering Saipan to the overall championship in the 11th Micronesian Cup outrigger canoe competition last month.

Sikkel was the coach, captain, and steersman of the Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club men's team than joined 15 other squads in the 2009 edition of the Micro Cup held in the waters off Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan on Oct. 23 and 24.

ATHLETES of the MONTH

With Sikkel in charge, SOCC won the men's 500m event. Saipan paddlers clocked in at 2:45.6 to beat Haggan (2:48.3) and Napun Haya (2:32.3). Animum Fote and Metgot finished only fourth and fifth with their times of 2:34.58 and 2:37.6, while Guatdan Tasi was last at 2:44.37. SOCC ruled the 500m preliminary race in Heat 1, as it recorded 2:32.78, while Haggan had the fastest time in the qualifier in Heat 2 with 2:29.02

In the 1,500m race, Sikkel and company were runners-up to Animun Tasi Metgot with the former submitting 8:66.27 against the latter's 8:60.5. Haggan was third with its 8:68.8. SOCC topped Heat 1 of the 1,500m preliminary race with a time of (8:66.50), while Metgot prevailed in Heat 2 (8:61.4).

Sikkel and teammates Sonny Downer, Joe Przyuski, Scott Hayden, Jim Sirok, Justin Mariano, and Gil Birnbrich also finished second in the 12-mile race. They completed the long distance race in 1:35:04, less than two minutes behind winner Metgot (1:33:39).

With SOCC having two runner-up finishes, ruling one race, and making it to the Top 2 in all the preliminary events in the 500m and 1,500m, the host took the overall championship in the two-day event.

Sikkel's team collected 46 points to outclass Guam's Haggan (42) and Animum Tasi Metgot (41) for the men's overall title.

Besides the bragging rights in last month's tournament, Sikkel and crew also won six round-trip tickets to Palau for the 2010 edition of the annual race.

In the women's division, Guam's Poksai took the overall title after tallying 50 points and beating Animum Tasi Metgot (45) and Animum Tasi Fottte (39).

Sikkel's selection as the outstanding athlete for October was made during the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association's meeting on Thursday night at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Northern Mariana Islands Kanu Racing Association's Birnbrich nominated Sikkel, who according to the former also helped organize the tournament.

The Micro Cup is the biggest canoe racing competition in Western Pacific and every year it draws teams from Guam, Palau, Hong Kong, Saipan, and Japan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Richard Sikkel, rear, steers Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club to the shore after completing the 12-mile race in last month's 11th Micronesian Cup outrigger canoe competition in the waters off Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

# No 'give me game' in govt/biz caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

IT&E 2009 INTER-GOVT & BUSINESS BASKETBALL LEAGUE

With the pennant still at stake in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League, next week's game between Hyatt Regency Saipan and NTT Docomo will be crucial.

Hyatt and NTT Docomo will square off on Nov. 13. Hyatt is in second place with its 9-1 record, a win behind IT&E (10-1). A Hyatt victory will tie the team with IT&E, but the former will take the pennant due to the winner-over-the-other rule. Hyatt won over IT&E in their lone meeting in the regular season, 112-110.

A Docomo triumph will ensure its rival IT&E the pennant and although the former partly holds the latter's chances for the No. 1 spot, Docomo said next week's game is more important to Hyatt and IT&E than theirs.

"Next Friday's game is more important to Hyatt than to us. Win or lose, we're still in the playoffs. But, we will still play our game and if we win then fine, if we lose then that's fine too," Docomo player James Lee said.

Docomo is currently in third place with a 6-3 slate and has two more games left. Before facing Hyatt, Docomo will duel Commonwealth Health Center first on Nov. 9. Results of these last two matches will determine Docomo's spot in the eight-team playoffs, but Lee believes whatever position his team gets, there is no guarantee of easy games in the next round.

"Every team is going to be tough, depending on how you play them so

See NO 'GIVE on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

IT&E's Bruce Berline, left, and Hyatt Regency Saipan's Ray Lizama battle for the rebound during their lone meeting in the regular season of the inter-government/business caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Hyatt and IT&E are disputing this year's pennant.

# Rollers sweep in Rotary caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Young 670 Rollers foiled Hi-5's bid to break into the win column in the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after pulling off a 47-43 victory in their game on Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hi-5 had its first win slipping away from its hands in the last 59 seconds of the game when Young 670 Rollers made a couple defensive stops and Lawrence Deleon Guerrero escaped with back-to-back fastbreak layups.

The match was tied last at 41-all after Biff Baka's baseline running jumper. Young 670 Rollers then put up a pressure defense against Hi-5 from the

See ROLLERS on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Young 670 Rollers' Savali Talalemoto fakes off the defense of two Hi-5 players during their game in the Rotary caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

## RGA November tourney, December qualifier set

Refaluwasch Golfers Association will have a two-in-one tournament tomorrow at the Coral Ocean Point course.

This Sunday's event will be the RGA November Ace Tournament and the December qualifier. Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is scheduled for 12pm. Only the first 20 players to register will be allowed to play in the tournament.

In the November Ace Tournament, RGA members must beat the net 68 that Tom Tebuteb recorded in last month's qualifier at the Kingfisher Golf Links. If no RGA member scores better than net 68, Tebuteb gets to keep the November Ace and qualifies for the RGA Club Championship.

See RGA on Page 27